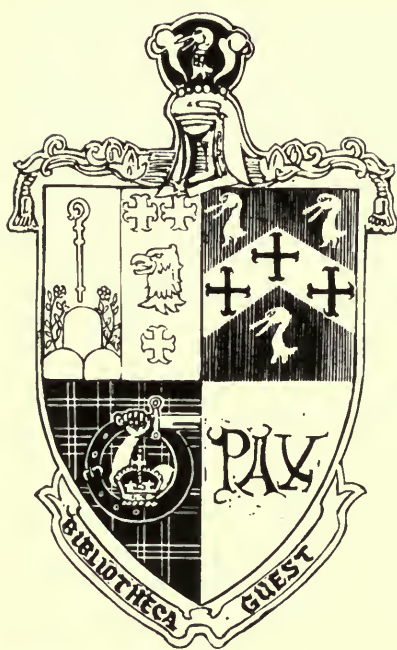


ST. MARY'S, HURLEY,

IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

CHARTERS AND DEEDS



h.m. Lange

f20



ST. MARY'S, HURLEY,

IN THE MIDDLE AGES:

BASED ON

HURLEY CHARTERS AND DEEDS.

BY

THE REV. F. T. WETHERED,

M.A. CH. CH., OXFORD ; VICAR OF HURLEY, BERKS.

“ in the shade
Of ruined walls that have survived the names
Of those who reared them.”—BYRON.

LONDON :

PRINTED AT THE BEDFORD PRESS, 20 & 21, BEDFORDBURY, W.C.

1898.

MAR 23 1999

DEDICATED,
BY PERMISSION,
TO
THE VERY
REV. GEORGE GRANVILLE BRADLEY, D.D.,
DEAN OF WESTMINSTER.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
PREFACE	vii
ST. MARY'S CHURCH	i
A BENEDICTINE MONASTERY	46
HURLEY SEALS	69
PRIORS AND VICARS OF HURLEY	82
HURLEY CHARTERS AND DEEDS	89
APPENDIX	227



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2007 with funding from
Microsoft Corporation

P R E F A C E.

FOR many years past I have been collecting the materials out of which this memoir has been compiled. Our Rural Dean has more than once suggested that I should put them into print, and when, last autumn, the Dean and Chapter of Westminster placed a large number of Hurley Charters and Deeds at my disposal, on loan at the British Museum, I resolved to publish them in an epitomized form; and gradually this little work has grown.

If a great book be a great evil, a small book has at least the advantage of being a lesser evil. This volume in no way pretends to be a complete history of the burial place of Edith, sister of King Edward the Confessor. It takes the form of a sketch which is mainly centred on the history of Hurley in the Middle Ages. It is well known that a book is always of more interest to the author than to his readers. In this instance, I shall more accurately describe myself as a compiler than as an originator.

To the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and to the officials of the British Museum, my best thanks are due for their valuable co-operation.

The extreme taste with which the drawings of the fourteen Hurlèy Seals have been executed by a lady parishioner; the clearness of the photographs, which have been taken expressly for the book by a member of my family, and the kindly sympathy with which I have been met on all sides, are ample reward for any trouble I have taken; and, if the interest to the reader shall equal one tithe of that which it has occasioned to the writer, then this small tribute to the Church and Village of my native parish will not have been offered in vain.

It will be easily detected that I have regarded the Westminster collection of Hurley Charters and Deeds as the nucleus of the book. Every reference within rounded brackets, for example "(No. 116)", in the text, refers, in all cases, to a corresponding number at the commencement of each epitome in Chapter V.

F. T. WETHERED.

HURLEY VICARAGE,
June, 1898.





The West Doorway of St. Mary's Church.

CHAPTER I.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

"On the deep walls the heathen Dane
Had poured his impious rage in vain."—SCOTT.

Birinus—Removal of Berkshire from the Diocese of Winchester—*Domesday*—Edward the Confessor's Sister buried at Hurley—Family of De Mandeville—A De Mandeville Pedigree—Bishop Osmund—Hurley Foundation Charter—Architecture of St. Mary's Church—Church Bells—Architecture—Church Goods in 1552—The Doyly Brass—A Prior's Coffin Stone—Present value of Hurley Vicarage.

WHEN Birinus was sent to Britain, in 634, Berkshire was in heathen darkness. The baptism of Cynegils in 635 was a most important and favourable inauguration to his mission. It was an encouragement sufficient to cheer the heart of any man, to convert to Christianity this King of Wessex. Through the instrumentality of Cynegils and of Oswald, King of Northumbria, Dorchester in Oxfordshire was allotted as the Episcopal See of Birinus; and Berkshire, with the remainder of Wessex, lays claim to him as its first bishop after the landing of St. Augustine. He now lies buried at Winchester, his remains having been removed thither by Bishop Heddi from Dorchester. Agilbert, his successor in the Episcopate of the West Saxons, knew next to nothing of the national language, and was at last so distasteful on this account to Kenwalch, who had succeeded his father on the West Saxon throne seven years before Birinus died, that Kenwalch divided his province into two dioceses, and made Wini Bishop of Winchester in 662. At this Agilbert took great offence, and returned to Gaul. Wini was succeeded by Eleutherius

who was sole bishop at Dorchester. The See was eventually settled at Winchester by Bishop Heddi in 683 (?) At his death, in 705, the vast Western Diocese, including Sussex as well as Wessex, was divided into the two dioceses of Winchester and Sherborne. In 909 the See of Ramsbury, in Wiltshire, was created, with a bishop's house at Sonning, near Twyford, Berks. Later on, Bishop Herman, who was appointed to the See (Ramsbury) in 1045, secured also the See of Sherborne (in 1058), and, ere long, succeeded in getting King Edward the Confessor to amalgamate them into one united diocese. Once again, after no long interval of time, another change took place: and in 1075 the See was transferred to Salisbury, or rather, to Old Sarum. As to the year in which Berkshire actually became separated from the once enormous diocese of Winchester, the Bishop of Oxford, greatest of all ecclesiastical historians, tells me that he now holds that the date of final separation is the year 909. Bishop Stubbs considers that the assertion of the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, in 709, that Aldhelm, first Bishop of Sherborne, was "west of Selwood" must be taken literally and exclusively. This statement on the part of the *Chronicle*, together with the statements of the charters of Edward the Elder, who died in 925, that the diocese of Winchester was divided into two parts in 909, settles the question. I am altogether unable to understand as to the source from which William of Malmesbury, who died about 1143, could possibly have got his authority for stating (*Gest., Pontif.* Rolls Ed. p. 175)—"alter [Episcopus] qui Scireburniæ haberet Wiltunensem, Dorsatensem, Berruchensem," etc., etc. Bishop Osmund succeeded Herman at Old Sarum in 1078, and came to Hurley to re-dedicate our Saxon church, on the invitation of Geoffrey de Mandeville, the Lord of the Manor, in c. 1086 or 1087.

In the early ages, parishes¹ in this country were unknown. They existed only in the same sense that a diocese exists now. *Διοίκησις*, literally *housekeeping*, was one of the lesser Roman provinces (*Cic. Fam.*, 13, 53, 67), and has now come to mean a bishop's *jurisdiction*—*Diocese*. *Πάροικος*, literally *dwelling beside or near*, is the derivation of our word parish, *i.e.*, a dwelling near the *Church*. Each man formerly devoted his tithes to whatever priest or church he pleased ; and, in default of special appropriation by the tithe-payer, the bishop, as *Overseer* of the Church, distributed them. Lords of the manor used often to allocate their grants of tithes for the benefit of those churches which they had built for the use of their own tenants ; the tithing district was, in short, commensurate with the manor, and not with any parochial boundary. In our own case, however, this was not so ; for it is certain that when the founder of our church in Hurley dedicated all those tithes and lands with which he endowed the Benedictine Priory, at a date anterior to the death of William the Conqueror, the sanctuary in which we still worship had long ago been built, as a parish church.

Domesday, the Survey which the Conqueror ordered to be taken² with such accuracy that not even a yard of land or a beast on the farms was omitted, makes mention of a church in Hurley as already in existence ; and it had, we may not doubt, been standing as a witness³ to God for some hundreds of years before its re-dedication by Osmund, Bishop of Salisbury. The bishop's name appears at the head of the witnesses to Geoffrey de Mandeville's foundation charter. Amongst the other witnesses is Gilbert, Abbot of Westminster ; so that we are enabled, from what we know of these two witnesses alone, to fix the date

¹ There are instances of English parishes, as we now use the term, in 700.

² For purposes of taxation.

of the charter within comparatively narrow limits. Bishop Osmund was consecrated in 1078, and died in 1099. Gilbert succeeded Vitalis, who died on June 19th, 1085, as Abbot of Westminster, and he held office at the Abbey for thirty-two years, dying on December 6th, 1117; so that it is certain that the date of the charter was subsequent to June 19th, 1085. *Domesday* was probably commenced about 1085 and finished about 1086. The exact date is as uncertain as it is wholly immaterial; but, whatever its precise date, the Survey contains no allusion to the existence of a monastery at Hurley. But the date we are in quest of can be modified very much more closely, since the charter was certainly executed before the death of William I, which occurred on September 9th, 1087. Our founder tells us in the charter that he has made his gifts "as free and as clear of disturbance as when my Lord the King gave and granted them to me". We may therefore fix with tolerable certainty upon the year 1086 or 1087 as the date at which Hurley history, so far as we know of it, commenced.

Inasmuch as *Domesday* tells us that Hurley possessed at the time the Survey was taken, "all the constituents of opulence"—to adopt the phrase of 'Plantagenet' in the *Gentleman's Magazine* [1839, Part I, pp. 257-263]—"which were common to that period, viz., mills, fisheries, meadows, woods, and swine, we cannot but suppose that it was also then provided with a church; and considering the apparent restoration of one half of the north wall, there is great probability that this identical church may have been one of those ravaged by the Danes, A.D. 870, during their occupation of Reading, or in 894, when they traversed Herlei on their march "up by Temese," from Essex to Gloucestershire, as we are informed by the *Saxon Chronicle*, and as is attested by an encampment called the Danes' Ditches,

in the immediate neighbourhood of the edifice." The camp of the Danes at Danesfield, the seat of Mr. R. W. Hudson, in Medmenham parish, which is about three-quarters of a mile in a direct line from Hurley Church well answers to the description here given. The enormous fosses which still exist leave no doubt as to their origin. The *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* (p. 366) for 894 tells us that while King Alfred was at Exeter "both the other armies [the Northumbrian and East-Anglian Danes] had drawn together at Shoebury, in Essex, and there had constructed a fortress ; then both together went up along the Thames, and a great addition came to them, as well from the East Anglians as from the North Humbrians. They then went up along the Thames till they reached the Severn."

There are two distinct portions, chronologically, in the structure of Hurley Church—one from the angle on the south-east side of the quadrangle (on the north flank of the church) to a point in the northern wall which is a few feet west of the old blocked-up Norman doorway ; the other extends to the extreme west end. This is clear enough from the masonry ; and it is strenuously contended that the first portion is of a date long before the Norman Conquest. The western end of the church is certainly not later than the Norman period. When we consider what wild times had preceded the Conquest, I do not think there is anything strange in our founder causing his church at Hurley to be re-dedicated by the diocesan, on the occasion of the inauguration of the monastery. The origin of the name "Domesday" is a little doubtful. Some have supposed that the Norman Survey is so called from the fact that the authority of this book can never be disputed, there being no appeal from its statements of fact ; whilst there are others who main-

tain that the Survey takes its name of "Domesday" from the place of its preservation—the Chapter-house of the Church ("Domus Dei") at Westminster.

The following extract concerning Hurley is copied from a photo-zincograph of the original book, which was deposited in the Chapter-house at Westminster Abbey in 1696. Hurley is one of six properties in Berkshire which come under the head of "Terra Goisfridi De Manneville." The other five are West Ilsley, East Ilsley, Lamborne, Watcombe and Streatley.

"In Benes Hundredo. Isdem Gousfridus tenet Herlei. Esgar tenuit de rege Edwardo. Tunc et modo pro XIII hidis, una virgata minus. Terra est XVIII carucatæ. In dominio sunt III carucatæ et XXV villani et XII cotarii cum XV carucis. Ibi X servi et molendinum de XX solidis. Ibi ecclesia et II piscariæ de XII solidis et XX acræ prati. Silva de v porcorum. Valet et valuit XII libras."

The following is the translation of the Latin into English:—

"The land of Gousfridus de Manneville. In Benes Hundred. The same Gousfridus holds Herlei. Esgar held it from King Edward. Then and now for 14 hides, less one virgate. The land is 18 carucates. In demesne are 4 ploughs and 25 villeins and 12 cottagers with 15 ploughs. There are 10 serfs and a mill of 20 shillings. There is a church, and [there are] 2 fisheries of 12 shillings, and 20 acres of meadow. A wood of 5 hogs. It [the manor] is and has been worth 12 pounds [as a yearly tax]."

These six properties which our founder owned in Berkshire are but a small portion of his holdings in England. There are numerous references to him in *Domesday*. As tenant-in-chief he held estates in eleven different counties—the whole or part, it is said, of 100 manors and more. A

pretty good thing he made of the Conquest ! It is said that he fought beside his liege lord William I, at the battle of Senlac, but there is no actual proof adduced to substantiate this current story. It is, by the way, especially important to observe what a large number of his holdings had previously belonged to Esgar, Master of the Horse to King Edward the Confessor—Hurley for one. This Esgar held several offices. He was a Portreeve, and for a time Sheriff of Middlesex. Besides Hurley, he held property in Lamborne, Berkshire, under Edward the Confessor ; and Geoffrey de Mandeville supplanted him there as well as here. In the *Waltham Chronicle* ("De Inventione," cap. xiii), Esgar is spoken of as "*qui stalra inventus est in Angliæ conquisitione a Normannis, cujus hereditatem postea dedit conquisitor terræ, rex Willelmus, Galfrido de Mandeville proavo presentis comitis Willelmi*" ["who was found to be Staller at the conquest of England by the Normans, whose heritage King William, conqueror of the land, afterwards gave to Geoffrey de Mandeville, great-grandfather of the present Earl William", i.e., William, the third Earl of Essex, died in November 1189]. In consequence of Esgar's occupation, in fact, Hurley was formerly known as *Esgareston* ; and, moreover, East Garston, which name is merely a corruption of "*Esgareston*" on the west side of Berkshire, east-south-east of Lamborne, takes its name from the same individual. *Domesday* runs—under Lamborne, in which, as already stated, was one of G. de Mandeville's six Berkshire properties, as follows :—"In Lamborne Hundredo. Isdem Goisfridus tenet Lamborne . Esgar tenuit de rege Edwardo . Tunc pro xxx hidis . Modo pro x hidis . Terra est xx carucatæ . In dominio sunt iiii carucatæ et xxiii villani et xii bordarii cum x carucis . Ibi iii servi et ii molendina de xv solidis et v acræ prati . Silva de xl porcorum . Valebat xx libras et post et modo xii libras."

Under Streatley :—" In Eletesford Hundredo. Isdem Goisfridus tenet Estralei . Esgar tenuit de rege Edwardo . Tunc pro xxv hidis . Modo pro x hidis . Terra est xv carucatæ . In dominio sunt iii carucatæ et xviii villani et x cotarii cum xii carucis . Ibi vii servi et molendinum de xxii solidis et ii piscariæ de xi solidis et xxii acræ prati . In Oxineford i haga de x denariis . Tempore Regis Edwardi et post valuit xx libras . Modo xxiiii libras . Ecclesiam hujus manerii tenet Wibertus presbyter de Goisfrido cum i hida . Et ibi habet i carucatam cum uno cotario et iiii acras prati . Valet et valuit L solidos."

I have quoted these three *Domesday* entries, partly in order to give my readers some idea of the Survey—a great sameness pervading the whole—and partly in order to emphasize the importance of Esgar, as Master of the Horse to King Edward, as well as the extensiveness of G. de Mandeville's property in this part of England. The chief Staller to the King held a post of great importance, and was liberally rewarded for his services. It was a bitter moment for him when the Normans succeeded the Saxons as rulers in England. Esgar was a big man, but his successor in ownership was a bigger man still. East Garston seems to have been culled from Lamborne, a portion of which, *Domesday* tells us, was "in dominio regis" and therefore quite easily transferable to Esgar as *tenens in capite* under the Crown. There is Norman work in East Garston Church. Esgar's holdings extended to Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Warwickshire, Middlesex, and other counties. He was the son of Adelstan, and grandson of Tovi, one of the founders and benefactors of the Abbey of Waltham. All his lands which he held in virtue of his office as Master of the Horse, or Constabularius, to King Edward the Confessor, fell in to Geoffrey de Mandeville.

It will be useful here to those of my readers who are not versed in *Domesday* measurements, etc., to give some account of its terms and expressions. The object of King William, when he ordered this exact survey to be taken, was not only to compute the extent and the value then attaching to the lands of which he now was master, but to compare such value with that which had attached to them in the time of King Edward. The distribution of land by hides dates as far back as Ina, King of Wessex (*abdic.* 725). This derivation is from a hide = skin, cut into very thin strips, once used for measuring purposes. The "hida" varied in different places. It is explained to be "as much as was sufficient for the cultivation of one plough—generally computed at 120 acres."

Bede calls a hide *Familiam*—that is, enough to keep one family. The "virgate" also varied in different places—it equals from 15 to 40 acres, being derived from "virga"—a rod, of measurement. "Terra," used by itself, means ploughed land, as distinct from pasture or meadow at the time of *Domesday*. A carucate means a plough land, from *caruca*, a plough: it was as much land as could be ploughed by a single plough in a year and a day. "In dominio" refers to all lands held in demesne, or "in hand," by the superior lord, as distinct from land let out as farms. "Villani" were considered, like other stock, as part of the manor. The Normans enfranchised them a little, admitting them to the oath of fealty (to be true to the lord of whom land was held), thus raising their condition to an estate superior to downright slavery but inferior to every other condition.

The "Cotarii" were simply cottagers who lived *à côté* of the manor, and who paid a small rent for tiny holdings. The unhappy "servi" were "goods and chattels" of the lord, who could be turned out of any tenure of land at the

whim of their superiors in a moment. The "bordarii," or boors, lived in *bords* or cottages. They held a small piece of land, and had to provide poultry and eggs, etc., for the lord of the manor. Some derive the term "bordarii" from the Gallic *bords*, as being on the *borders* of the estate. "Piscariæ" were fishing rights—ponds—or rights of fishing in another man's water. The Thames was a salmon river at the time of *Domesday*. The river is close to the Priory. Lastly comes the question of our "mill" (*molendinum*). Where was it at the time the Survey was taken? Was it at Frogmill, with "Pizen Ducks" cottage as the miller's house, or had the canal leading to the present mill near Hurley Lock been, then, cut as a water-duct from the main river Thames? I have often wished that some Hurley deed or charter would tell us this. It is clear that there *must* have been at some time a mill of *some* sort at "Frogmill." Was it the Fuller's Mill referred to in No. 123, or was it the flour mill of Hurley Manor in 1086? We need a Daniel to tell us that. It is worth noticing that, in *Domesday*, arable land was measured by the carucate, common pasture by the hide, and meadow by the acre. Where was the wood which *Domesday* tells us was capable of supporting five hogs? It must have been a small one, or else with but little mast in it. It will be noticed in our Foundation Charter how the donor gives, amongst other things, "in my Park one hog-run with land for the swine herd". He also grants all the tithe of "pannage" in hogs and payments, in all his demesnes. The privilege of "pannage" in woods of oak and beech was considerable. The word "pannage" is merely another term for "pasturage"—pigs' food in the woods consisting of the masts, acorns, beech nuts, and everything edible except grass. Hurley Great Wood was given at the dissolution of Hurley Priory, to the Abbey

at Westminster, in exchange for Covent Garden, by King Henry VIII.

It is unfortunate that, owing to the variations in different parts of England as regards the extent of hides, carucates, and acres, it is impossible to assess the superficial area of Hurley Manor at the time of *Domesday*. The terms, as we have seen, were all indefinite. How much a hide exactly was, how much a "caruca", or plough would turn up in a year and a day, how much an "ager"—acre—(field) was, we cannot with accuracy determine. Sufficient has been said, however, to give some general idea of the superficial area of Hurley. At this moment the manor (including a small portion of the Manor of Feenes) admeasures 4,110 acres of land, and 49 of water. Its rateable value was given in 1895 as £6,409. The population was 1,080 in 1891 (the last date of the census). The value of Hurley Priory in 1534-35 was £121 18s. 5*d.* according to Dugdale; according to Speed, £134 10s. 8*d.* The Priory was actually dissolved in 1536.

Hurley owes its historic existence to the persuasion and example of the pious Leceline, second wife of Geoffrey de Mandeville. He had buried his first wife, Athelais, the mother of his sons, in the cloisters of Westminster, and had given commandment concerning the resting-place of his own remains beside her. In a grant to Eye, he writes: "Ego Goisfridus de Magna villa pro anima mea et pro anima Athelays conjugis meæ in claustro Sancti Petri sepultæ, qui etiam juxta eam sepeliendus sum (see Cotton. MS., *Faustina*, A. III, 281 *verso*)"; and, although a rough warrior of the period, he loved dearly the burial-place of her whom he had lost. Leceline, his second wife, showing no jealousy of Athelais, and with a pious feeling that, out of the hundred manors or so which her husband had received from the King, he was bound to make some offering to God from the good gifts that had

been bestowed upon him, moved him to do honour to our village Sanctuary ; and so he caused it to be dedicated afresh to God, founded here a Benedictine cell to Westminster, and endowed it with tithes and lands from all parts of his vast possessions. All this strikes me as one of the prettiest little episodes, in connection with our church and parish, that one can well imagine.

We notice in his charter how our founder took pains to connect all classes of his friends and supporters with the good work towards which his wife had prompted him. He wished his offerings to be associated with his home at Walden, and that they should be handed down as a mighty effort of his family to do honour to God and to the memory of his loved dead at Westminster. Turolde, his steward, with his right hand on our altar ; his son Ralph—both of Ockendon in Essex—and Ædric, his bailiff, contributed their gifts. His eldest son William ; Richard, clearly another son of Athelais ; Agamund, the parson of Ockendon ; Engeram, the family butler ; Ælfric, the mason who was to build the Priory, were amongst those met together in the church at Hurley. Solemn service was held to invoke the Divine blessing on the work. *Hurstelega*, “the place of the wood,” once known as Esgareston, was from that day forward to be reckoned in the annals of Berkshire as “*Percelebris locus*,” which a late fifteenth-century brass (still riveted on to the floor of the church) assigns as an epithet of Hurley. At that very moment the remains of Edith, sister of the Confessor, lay buried at their feet ; or, at any rate, soon afterwards were laid to rest on the spot (see p. 43). A perusal of the Charters and Deeds of Hurley—which I print in brief—will be sufficient evidence of the importance and dignity which was in store for our Priory.

The incident connected with Edith is of such great

interest that I will let my readers have a sight of the *Liber Niger Quaternus* of Westminster with regard to her. This volume contains a register of charters from William I to the time of the compiler, Abbot Esteney (1474-1498). The following is an exact translation of the passage referred to :—

“Fifteenth year of Richard II (June 1391-92): ‘At the same time the Prior and Convent of Hurley besought my Lord the King that out of reverence due to Lady Edith, sister of the holy King Edward the Confessor, there buried [ibidem sepultæ], and inasmuch as they are troubled in many particulars, that is to say by Thames floods, their houses laid in ruins, the death of their occupants, and inasmuch as they are modestly endowed—it might please the said Lord King to appropriate to them the Church of Warefeld in the Salisbury Diocese of which they from a distant date have been the patrons.’” However, it is clear that at any rate up to December 12th, 1397, the Priory had not obtained the favour asked (No. 507).

When Hardicanute died in 1042, the English saw their chance of shaking themselves free of Danish rule. The children of Edmund Ironside were the true heirs to the throne; but inasmuch as they were at the time abroad, and as the powerful Godwin favoured the accession of Edward, son of Ethelred the Unready, the latter became King of England. Godwin, however, had made one sole condition of his aid—that Edward should marry his daughter Edith, and the marriage service was performed between them, although they lived as brother and sister together, rather than as man and wife. The Queen died on December 18th, 1075, and was buried at Westminster. The Confessor had a sister named Edith, of half-blood relationship. His mother, Emma of Normandy, had been married to Canute the Dane before she allied herself with Ethelred,

and this fact gives a clue as to who the Princess of Royal blood buried at Hurley really was. Ulster King has told us that the eldest daughter of Canute and Emma was an Edgiva, who (Speed says) was married to Ethelstan, "a general slaine by the Danes in the year 1010". Or else it may be that the Edith referred to was Eadgith, daughter of Ethelred the Unready himself. She married Eadric Streon, and this is all we know. I am quite convinced that there is no confusion between Edith, the Confessor's Queen, and the "Lady Edith" to whose burial at Hurley the chronicler of Richard II refers as a well-known fact. It is incredible that a writer of only 350 years later could have blundered between the virgin queen and the half-sister of the great King Edward. Edith, his queen, was unquestionably buried at Westminster, whilst Edith, his sister, is buried at Hurley.

It is not without interest to inquire as to the origin of our founder's name, and to give a brief account of the pedigree and history of that portion of his family which is connected in any way with Hurley. "*On ne sait auquel des nombreux Magneville, Mandeville, Manneville de Normandie rapporter le berceau de cette illustre maison.*" This plea of general ignorance on the subject has not yet been anywhere responded to. It is alleged by some that his name of "de Magna Villa" was acquired by his prowess in battle. This, however, has as little real authority as the statement that he received his manors from the Conqueror on account of his having fought in the battle near Hastings, in 1066. De Lisle imagines that the family originated from Mandeville, a village near Trevières. There is another Mandeville, near St. Vallery-en-Caux, from whence the name of our founder may have been derived. That he had more than one son is evident from his Charter (No 1), which founded Hurley Priory.

One of these was William, the first Constable of the Tower of London. Mr. Round, in his learned work, entitled *Geoffrey de Mandeville* (i.e., our founder's grandson), exposes an error into which Dugdale has fallen in his *Monasticon*, whereby he makes out (misquoting his own authority) that the first Constable of the Tower was our founder himself. This is not so. He was Sheriff of Middlesex, but never Constable of the Tower. This William de Mandeville was not, so far as I know, in any way a benefactor to Hurley. He had, however, the distinction of being the immediate progenitor of one of the most remarkable men who ever blotched the escutcheon of a lordly race. A more inveterate scoundrel than his first-born, Geoffrey, never drew rein on battlefield or disgraced the honour of a distinguished name.

This Geoffrey did something for Hurley. He had married Roesia, daughter of Alberic de Vere and sister to Alberic the first Earl of Oxford; and conjointly Geoffrey and Roesia made a grant to Hurley Church (No. 6) of part of the tithe which their chaplain, William, had been in the habit of receiving "de dominica curia monachorum ejusdem ecclesiæ", i.e., of Hurley; and, further, he confirmed the grants of his grandfather to Hurley Church. One feels sorry, in the retrospect, that such a scoundrel should have set his seal to any charter in our favour. Coquetting first with Stephen and then with the Empress Matilda, Geoffrey eventually sold himself to the highest bidder. The charter which he secured from Stephen, making him Earl of Essex, is the oldest-known creation of an Earl by charter. In 1136 Geoffrey founded Walden Abbey, and the *Chronicle* states that he was at that time an Earl, and in his foundation charter he so styles himself. But neither of these documents are trustworthy in this respect, as Mr. Round clearly shows; and it is certain

that Stephen's creation charter was sealed at some date between June and December, 1140. Geoffrey was a dangerous man to reckon with, and the King's hand was practically forced. The charter was a short one. Mr. Round has supplied us, in his book, with a photograph of the original, which is preserved in the Cottonian Collection at the British Museum (vii-4).

The triumph of the Empress was brought to a head on April 7th and 8th, 1141, when in the presence of the Archbishop of Canterbury and all the English Bishops—first of all in private and then publicly—she was elected and declared as "*Domina Angliæ Normanniæque.*" Her triumph, however, did not last for more than a few months; but meanwhile the crafty Geoffrey had made the most of his opportunities. As Keeper of the Tower, his allegiance to the cause of Matilda was an important factor for the Empress herself, and Geoffrey was nothing loth to profit by the fact. Not only would it be highly advantageous for him to secure the confirmation of his Earldom from both rivals for the crown, but he saw his opportunity for increasing his wealth. By her charter of Midsummer, 1141, Matilda had granted him not only the Earldom of Essex, but also "the third penny of the Sheriff's Court, as an Earl ought to receive of his county in all things." She put into words what Stephen's charter of the previous year had in no way expressed to be conveyed by himself. The Empress's charter is much longer than Stephen's. Her license to fortify and her grants of land mainly distinguish it from that of her rival. The Tower of London had done much for Geoffrey, and for the nonce he was a great man. Then followed, on the expulsion of the Empress from London, her siege of Winchester, and her flight from Winchester after having been routed by the Queen; and then the once haughty combatant, in terrible plight, retired on

Gloucester. The King himself was set free. Soon after, the King granted a *second* charter in favour of Geoffrey. Matilda's grant to him of £100 a year on security in Essex was raised threefold, and the manors of Writtle and Hatfield were superadded by Stephen. Escheats to the Crown were charged with £100 in his favour, annually; and Arnulf, Geoffrey's son, likewise received an annual grant. But, even yet, Geoffrey was not satisfied.

Yet another charter was petitioned from the Empress by this great chameleon of the Middle Ages, which in the decline of all her hopes was, in fact, accorded to him. And then, at last, the end came. Geoffrey, more dominant than ever, was arrested at St. Alban's by the King. The surrender of the Tower and all his castles, or else the gallows, were the conditions offered him. Preferring the former to the latter alternative, he surrendered to the King; and Saffron Walden, the stronghold of his family, as well as Pleshy, were forfeited in addition to the Tower. The Empress was powerless to help her fallen favourite. William de Say, who had married Beatrice, Geoffrey's sister, espoused the cause of his brother-in-law. Geoffrey retired on the Fenland, and Cambridge fell a victim to his schemes. Nothing was safe. Churches, religious houses, everything, were ransacked. It seemed that the Devil himself had been unloosed from hell. Ramsey Abbey was desecrated; at Ely dead bodies festered in the field. Such a reign of terror as this made men wonder whether God's arm itself were shortened. There had never before, in England, been anything like it. At last the bolt was shot, and Geoffrey fell. At the siege of Burwell (in 1144), whilst this terrible man was wiping sweat from his brow—having taken off his helmet on a hot July day—an archer, seizing his chance, shot an arrow at Geoffrey's front, and, fatally wounded, he wallowed in the dust.

He did not die immediately, but breathed his last in Suffolk. It is said—and let us believe it—that he was penitent on his death-bed. Thus perished one of the most excitable daredevils who ever lived. According to the *Chronicles* of Ramsey, his brother-in-law, William de Say, was also killed at Burwell. Geoffrey's death closed a career which in after-history has never been forgotten. Cursed by the Church, the Knights Templar might fling over him the red cross of their Order, but his excommunicated body was denied the sanctuary of Christian burial. Suspended (in lead) to a fruit tree, or else thrown into a ditch outside a churchyard, it remained above ground for nineteen years. At last, however, Pope Alexander (the third) released the ban, and his bones now rest in the Temple Church, after a dispute between the Templars and the Prior of Walden, each of whom laid claim to his body. This is as strange and weird a history as was ever chronicled in connection with this country.

So great was the abhorrence in which the memory of this lawless man was held, more especially by the Church, that Arnulf, his eldest son (who had also much to answer for on his own account) was deprived of his succession to the Earldom and driven into exile. Curiously enough, he was the only male of his own generation of the De Mandeville family who had issue. Arnulf made a grant to Hurley Priory (No. 9) of one hide of land at Kingham, in Oxfordshire, for the salvation of his father's and his mother's (Adeliza's) souls, as well as of his own, which was witnessed by his wife and his three sons (Geoffrey, Arnulf, and William), as well as by two of his daughters. Ralph de Mandeville, also a son of Arnulf, granted land in Kingham to Hurley Church (No. 10). Geoffrey, second son of the first Earl, had not been with his father at the siege of Burwell, and in him the Empress recognised the successor

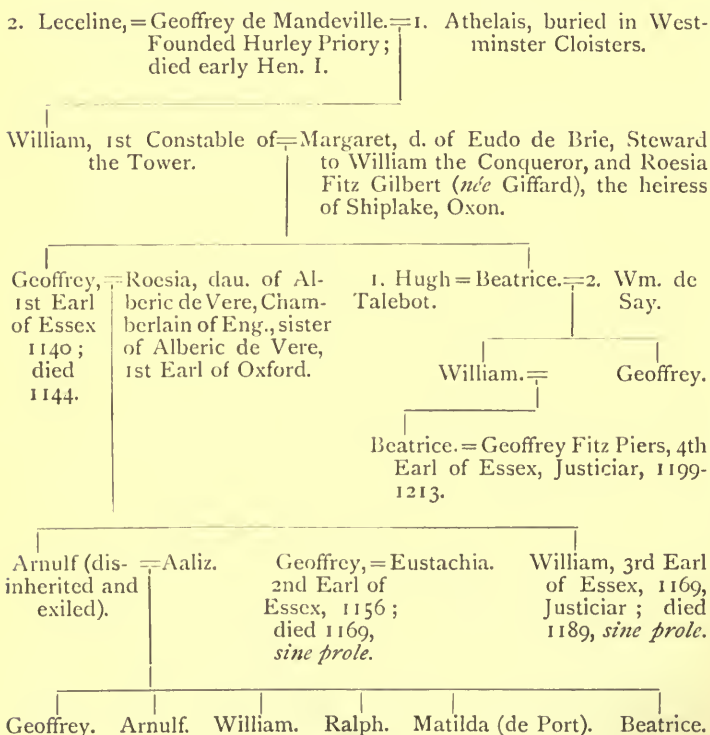
to his father's Earldom. It required, however, an entirely new creation to revive the lapsed title; and this was not effected until the January of 1156, twelve years after the first Earl's death, when Henry II conferred it on Arnulf's younger brother, Geoffrey, who made grants to Hurley Church (Nos. 11 and 12). Though married to Eustachia, he died without male issue in 1169, and was succeeded by his younger brother, William. Of this man, the third Earl, it has been well said: "The son was as loyal as his father was faithless"; but, although selected by Richard I for the post of Lord Chief Justice of England during the absence of that King in the East, he did not live long enough to represent Richard in his absence, as he died in November 1189, without issue; and, during the lifetime of Arnulf the outlaw, for the second time since the creation of the title, in 1140, the Earldom of Essex became extinct. Even yet, however, it was to rise once more from its ashes in connection with De Mandeville blood. Beatrice, William's aunt, who had been married, in succession, to Hugh Talebot and William de Say, had issue by her second marriage—a son, William, who himself had a daughter, Beatrice, and another son, Geoffrey, who confirms a grant of Earl William de Mandeville's to Hurley (No. 38). The last-named Beatrice was married to Geoffrey Fitz Piers, and for him it was reserved, once again, to renew the family honour of the De Mandevilles. Beatrice, his wife, claimed the title; and eventually it was sold to her husband for 3,000 marks by Richard I. This man, likewise, was Lord Chief Justice of England. But, although the Earldom was thus conferred on Fitz Piers, the heirship of William (third Earl) reverted to Beatrice (de Say), his aunt, who was alive at the time of William's death in 1189. I dwell upon this because Earl William's name appears frequently amongst *Hurley Charters and*

Deeds, whilst Beatrice, his aunt, confirmed one of his grants (No. 31). Geoffrey Fitz Piers confirmed two grants of Earl William de Mandeville (Nos. 32, 39).

The following pedigree gives a sketch of this remarkable family, so far as it is likely to be of interest in this memoir. I have compiled it, specially.

A DE MANDEVILLE PEDIGREE.

(See *Hurley Charters and Deeds.*)



The document which is of the greatest interest to Hurley, amongst the long list of "Charters and Deeds," (no fewer than five hundred and sixty-two of which I am enabled to reproduce in epitome form) is, of course, the Foundation

Charter of Geoffrey de Mandeville the first, to which I have already referred. When he executed this grant to Hurley, (c. 1086-87), he distinctly stated at the end of it: "Three brief Instruments recording this my Gift and Foundation have been made; one I have deposited at Westminster, another at the Church at Hurley, and a third for myself and my heirs who will succeed me." The "Hurley" original is in the custody of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, and is the earliest, of course, of all the Westminster collection of Hurley parchments. When Hurley Priory was dissolved, in 1536, the unhappy monks took all the parchments and papers which had hitherto been in their custody at Hurley to the Mother Abbey for safe keeping. A large number of the deeds, it will be noticed, have absolutely nothing at all to do with either Hurley Priory or Westminster Abbey. The fact is that, whereas in the Middle Ages town halls were the common "record offices" in which the townspeople deposited the parchments upon which their deeds of sale, or covenants, or agreements, were inscribed, the monasteries were the sanctuaries in country places to which the rustic population naturally turned, when they had any valuables to deposit; and this fact alone can account for the immense number of Hurley parchments and papers which the Dean and Chapter of Westminster have lately allowed me for examination. Such an opportunity has rarely, if ever, before, been accorded to a country parish. Having already given a sketch of the De Mandevilles and their history, a few words as to Bishop Osmund and Gilbert, Abbot of Westminster, who assisted our founder in his pious enterprise, will not be out of place.

Osmund appears as the first subscribing witness to Geoffrey's charter. This would be natural, as he was the diocesan of Hurley. His father was Henry, Count of Seez; his mother was Isabella, daughter of Robert, Duke

of Normandy. Thus, Osmund was nephew to William the Conqueror: all this is stated in the *Liber Evidentiarum*, in the Episcopal Registry of Salisbury.¹ Besides being Count of Seez, Osmund was afterwards Earl of Dorset and Lord High Chancellor of England. His name will be for ever memorable in church history as the compiler (about the year 1085) of the famous *Use* of Sarum, by far the best-known of all those Uses in England which took the place of the old Saxon Liturgy. We have still records of seven such Uses in England, Scotland and Wales. Osmund was consecrated Bishop of old Sarum by Lanfranc in 1078, and died on December 3rd, 1099, after a remarkably good episcopate; indeed, he was known as "Osmund the Good". This holy man was not canonised until three hundred and fifty-eight years after his death, on which occasion his remains were re-interred with great respect, and the 4th of December was assigned to his memory.² The second witness to the charter was Gilbert Crispin, Abbot of Westminster, likewise of Norman blood. His family, which was large, had produced several great men. He was educated at the monastery of Bec, in Normandy, under Lanfranc, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury; he was also, as a monk, under Archbishop—then Abbot—Anselm. After an abbacy of thirty-two years at Westminster, he died on December 6th, 1117, and was buried in the great cloisters.

In the earlier portion of the charter, reference is made to "the lands of the Ceorls at Little Waltham". (The Ceorls were of two sorts: one that hired the lord's teneimentary estate, like our farmers; the other that tilled and manured the *demesne*, yielding work and not rent, and were therefore called his *sockmen*, or ploughmen.) It is

¹ Uncorroborated.

² Feast of the Translation of St. Osmund, July 16th.

plain that this place cannot be the Little Waltham in Essex. Great Waltham and Little Waltham (Essex) both lie north of Chelmsford. It is therefore clear that in charter No. 2 our founder could not have referred to Waltham in Essex, when he forbade Ædric and "all his men of Waltham" to intermeddle with the water and wood of the Priory at Hurley. It is no less clear that when, in No. 218, reference is made to "Lutelwaltham", at Knowl Hill, or to the village of "Hurnlye" at Little Waltham (No. 270), or to Little Waltham in the Parish of Hurley (Nos. 288, 290), the Waltham referred to must be close to Hurley. A study of the Ordnance Map shows that immediately behind and to the south of the Knowl Hill Farm, a rectangular slice of Waltham St. Laurence juts in towards Hurley parish, enclosed towards the east and west respectively by the parishes of White Waltham and Wargrave. And, it is—as already shown—equally clear on studying the Deeds, that so dependent was Waltham St. Laurence on Hurley that the former parish—or rather a portion of it—is referred to as being actually *in* the parish of Hurley. On turning to No. 30 of the Hurley Grants, we notice that Herbert (Poor) Bishop of Salisbury (1194-1214), of which diocese Hurley and the Walthams near it were constituent parts, made a gift to Hurley Priory "of all tithes of sheaves at Waltham, and the oblations made on St. Laurence's Day," etc.; which gift was confirmed by his successor, Bishop Richard (Poor) shortly afterwards (1220); and on reference to No. 465, we find the end of a squabble between William Bromele, Prior, and the Convent of Hurley and the perpetual Vicar of Waltham St. Laurence, as to the increase of the portion of his vicarage. These instances are amply sufficient to indicate the vassalage of Waltham St. Laurence to Hurley Monastery. In *Domesday* no distinction is made between the Berkshire Walthams. Both White

Waltham and Waltham St. Laurence are simply styled as Waltham. Their ownership is divided between the King, the Bishop of Durham, and the Abbot of Chertsey. At the time of *Domesday*, Geoffrey de Mandeville owned nothing in either of the parishes known as White and Laurence Waltham. But, inasmuch as he was one of the Conqueror's highest favourites, it is not difficult to understand that, between the completion of *Domesday* and the execution of Geoffrey's charter (No. 1), he secured from the Crown a portion of Waltham St. Laurence as *tenens in capite*. Nothing more likely.

The charter itself is in good preservation. It is dark in colour, and appears to have suffered from damp, but every word of it is legible. The seal is described in the chapter on "Hurley Seals", later on. The charter [*c.* 1086-87] was engrossed in triplicate upon a stretch of vellum, 28½ ins. long and 13 ins. wide [*tria acta sunt brevia*], and the scribe wrote in large Roman characters the word CYROGRAPHUM (twice repeated) across the face of the parchment, so as to separate the three copies distinctly from one another, and these were afterwards severed by cutting through the letters horizontally, so that the top of each letter remains upon the bottom of the upper copy; and the bottom of each appears upon the top of the second copy—and so on *vicissim*. It can thus be ascertained for certain that the copy which is now at the head of the series of our "Hurley Charters," is the very one left with Hurley Priory at the time of its foundation, inasmuch as it is the middle of the three, which exactly corresponds with the order given in the instrument itself, viz.: "unum apud Westmonasterium, aliud apud eandem Ecclesiam de Herleia, tertium mihi et heredibus meis succedentibus." The endorsement is still in good preservation. It runs as follows: "Carta (primi) Gaufridi de Ma'villa et fundatoris Ecclesie de Herleia pro

quo Beneficio ejus anima gratuletur in celo. Amen."—"Fundatoris" here refers, not to the fabric of Hurley Church, which had long before been in existence, but to its endowment with lands and tithes. The terrible curse denounced on all those who should infringe upon the founder's gift, consigning them to the fate which befell the traitor Judas and those upstarts of the wilderness, Dathan and Korah, strikes harshly enough upon modern ears; but, after all, like the threatening clauses of the Athanasian creed, their "intents" are "charitable" rather than the reverse, even though we may pronounce this part of the charter to be expressed in "questionable shape". The curse was right piously denounced by Geoffrey. One is tempted to wonder whether Geoffrey's ghost ever haunted Henry Tudor, when he robbed the monasteries in after years. I have had the charter photographed, and the result is very good. Madox prints it in his *Formulare Anglicanum*, No. CCCXCVII, and there is a copy of it in the *Walden Register* compiled in 1397 for Abbot Pentelow.

Dugdale used the Walden transcript of the charter when he wrote his *Monasticon*. The *Walden Register* now forms part of the *Harleian MSS.* in the British Museum, No. 3,697.

The translation which follows was taken in 1891 from a transcript which the Dean and Chapter of Westminster allowed me to have made by a Record agent from the (Hurley) original at the Abbey: it hangs in Hurley Church.

A TRANSLATION OF THE ORIGINAL HURLEY FOUNDATION
CHARTER (NO. 1) IN THE CUSTODY OF THE DEAN AND
CHAPTER OF WESTMINSTER.

BY GEOFFREY DE MANDEVILLE (c. 1086—1087).

Let the Faithful and Sons of the Catholic Holy Mother Church, now and hereafter, know—That I, Geoffrey of Mandeville, have granted, and of my bounty have given, to God and to

S. Peter, and to the Church of Westminster, as also to S. Mary of Hurley for the salvation and redemption of my own soul, and for that of my wife Leceline, at whose counsel by the Providence of Divine Grace I began this good work ; and for the soul of Athelais my first wife and the mother, now deceased, of my sons ; as also for that of all my heirs and successors—

The said Church of S. Mary of Hurley in Berkshire, together with the whole of the aforesaid vill of Hurley, and with all the surrounding wood appertaining to the said vill, without any share or portion being taken by any man, whether a resident in the said Parish or holding any property therein,—except the land of Ædric the bailiff, and except the lands of the ceorls at Little Waltham,¹ which I have kept in my own hands for providing me with entertainment.

I have granted this, I say, and have given it in perpetuity to the said Church of Hurley together with all my demesne, free and without hindrance, whether in fields, or woods, meads, meadows, pastures, mills, waters, fisheries, fishing-rights, and with all their appurtenances,—that is to say—the Church of Waltham¹ together with a hide and a half of land which belongs to it, and the soke of the chapel at Remenham.² And [I have granted it] together with all other things with tythes and property in live and dead stock without partition or division, together with all customs and liberties of old belonging thereto, as free and as clear of disturbance or exaction from all men as when my Lord the King gave and granted the same to me.

I have also, together with the above named, given to the aforesaid Church, on the day on which I caused it to be Dedicated by Osmund, Bishop of Salisbury, in the presence of many other men and persons of great authority, the land of Edward of Watcombe³ as Endowment free and without hindrance, with all belonging to the same.

On that day, moreover, the aforesaid venerable Bishop, of his Pontifical authority, with the assistance of the persons of high influence and dignity who were with him, confirmed all my grants

¹ Waltham St. Laurence.

² Remenham is in Berkshire, next parish but one west of Hurley.

³ A farm called Watcombe still exists at Fawley, Berks.

which I made of my free will to the said holy place for the eternal salvation of my own soul and for that of all my heirs,—that is to say, in all the manors which at that time were in my demesne, the third part of the tythe of all my corn and two-thirds of the tythe of all the stock both live and dead, in all my manors, without partition; and the whole of the tythe of my pannages, in hogs and payments, without partition; and the whole tythe of cheese, without partition; and the whole tythe of flax and wool, without partition; and the whole tythe of fowls, horses, and calves, and of orchards and vineyards, without partition; and the whole tythe of all my other goods from whatsoever the tythe ought rightly and justly be given to God.

In addition forsooth [to the above] I have, in every manor of all my demesne, given to my aforesaid Church of Hurley one ceorl who shall hold eight acres of land, free and clear from all custom, and in my Park one hog-run with land for the swineherd.

To these moreover I have further added one fishery in the Isle of Ely,¹ which supplies a thousand and a half of dried eels, and a present of forty eels, that is to say fat eels. And in the vill which is called Mose,² I have granted, besides the above, three thousand dried herrings.

Also Turolde, my steward, has granted to the said Church and has confirmed the same, placing his right hand upon the Altar,³ together with the offering of his son Ralph, two-thirds of the tythe of all his corn in Ockendon,⁴ and the whole tythe of all his live and dead stock, without partition; and in Bordesden⁵ the whole tythe of all his corn and of all his stock, without partition.

¹ Chippenham, in Cambridgeshire, although not *in* the Isle of Ely, is very near it. It belonged to Geoffrey de Mandeville (I), and had a fishery assessed at 1,500 eels. In *Domesday* the Inquisitors say of this fishery: "De piscaria 1,500 anguillarum in totis valentiis £20: quando recepit £16: tempore R. E. £12."

² Mose, a hamlet in Beaumont parish, in Essex, ten miles south-east of Colchester. Mose was formerly a separate and distinct parish, but was consolidated with Beaumont in 1678. *Domesday* says that the King gave the manor of Mose to Geoffrey de Mandeville "quando remansit Lundoniæ".

³ See Appendix, No. 26, *note*.

⁴ *Domesday* gives Ockendon (in Essex) as held by Geoffrey de Mandeville, and "Turolde de eo".

⁵ Bordesden manor is in Essex.

Ædric, my bailiff, has given the whole tythe of his corn and of all his live and dead stock in the same place without partition.

Now I, for the completion of this my so great bounty and for the sole support of the Convent of monks continually serving God in the said Church, have under the influence of Divine Grace besought my Lord King William that, in order to preserve the everlasting integrity and endurance of the place, all these things might be confirmed, to the honour of God and for the salvation of my own soul and of that of all my heirs and successors; and that that place—a place which was also distinguished by the guardianship of royalty—should always be held by me as the chief one having a call upon my protection and defence, and as my highest honour, and be free and clear from disquietude at the hands of all men.

And so, on the same day on which the Church was Dedicated, by the said Bishop and by Gilbert, Abbot of Westminster, together with many other men and persons of high authority, I caused that all who should violate or reduce these my alms should be excommunicated, that their habitation should ever be with the accursed Judas, the betrayer of our Lord, and that they should go down alive into the pit of eternal damnation together with Dathan and Korah, under the eternal malediction [of God] unless they shall have repented and made due satisfaction.

Wherefore I call to witness, by the terrible judgment of God and by His Almighty power in heaven and earth, all my sons, that is to say my heirs and all my successors, that they themselves do not, nor suffer to be done, any violation of this my gift; moreover that they increase and stablish the same, so that God may increase and stablish their days, and their life in everlasting happiness; and that they may on account of these my alms take part with me in the heavenly Rest.

Witnesses—

The said Bishop Osmund—Gilbert, Abbot of Westminster—the Lady Leceline, my wife—William of Mandeville—Richard of Mandeville—Hugh, Marshal—Turolde of Ockendon, the steward—Geoffrey of Ockendon—Walter, Marshal—Ascelin, the chaplain—Agamund, the parson of Ockendon—Godwin of Turrock, the chaplain—Ralph of Hairun—Arnulf of Grenford—Robert, his nephew—Engeram, the cup-bearer—Richer, knight—Roger

Blond—Wymund of Blangey—Ædric, the bailiff—Ælfric, the builder—together with many other men and persons of authority and dignity, who were present at Hurley on that day but whose names it is not necessary to record.

After counsel, then, taken with honest men, three brief Instruments recording this my Gift and Foundation have been made; one I have deposited at Westminster, another at the Church at Hurley, and a third for myself and heirs who will succeed me; [and this I have done] in order to secure the everlasting integrity and permanence of the place.

L.S.

Hurley Church has gone through many changes since the days of Geoffrey de Mandeville, besides the addition of the west end of the church in Norman times. The large chancel window—made entirely of chalk, except the sill and corbel-heads at the ends of the dripstone—is a beautiful illustration (*c.* 1350) of the Decorated period. The elegance of the two long ogee lights and the quatre-foiled central spandrel in the arch, the deep undercut of the mouldings, and the whole proportions of the window, quite atone, architecturally, for the introduction of this beautiful piece of Gothic work amongst the Anglo-Saxon and Norman portions of the sacred edifice. The Perpendicular period is now represented by a reddish compact sandstone font, probably of the end of the fourteenth or commencement of the fifteenth century. It is tub-shaped and panelled, and is engraved in Van Voorst's book of the celebrated fonts of England, as being of an uncommon type. At the time when the Editor published his book (1844), it stood (dimensions—2 ft. 9 ins. high; 2 ft. 8 ins. across the top) near the south door in a Baptistery pew on the north side of the nave. It was, then, painted (!) The circumference and depth of the font-basin makes it clear that it was originally intended for Baptism

by immersion. It is now raised on a stone pedestal, and stands on the south side of the nave close to the large south door of the church leading into the churchyard. Until 1852, a wooden Perpendicular porch stood in the churchyard, outside the south doorway. Inasmuch as the floor of the nave was formerly much lower than the surrounding level of the ground, four steps had to be descended from the churchyard when entering the church. The same was the case when entering by the west door. The higher elevation of the ground on the churchyard side may, of course be accounted for, to some extent, by the number of bodies laid in the ground for many centuries ; but, apart from this, in the case of Saxon churches such as Hurley, the depression of the floor of the church below the level of the ground outside is not unusual. The chancel is one step higher than the nave, and the sanctuary itself is two steps higher still, while the altar stands on an altar-pace raised higher than the level of the Sanctuary. The base of the huge monument to the Lovelace family is now partly hidden, and thus it would appear that the present elevation of the sanctuary floor is of comparatively modern date. When Mr. Ashmole (died 1692) visited Hurley Church, there was the following inscription upon the foot of the well-known Lovelace monument :—

Johannes Lovelace, Armiger,
mortem obiit 25 Augusti, 1558, et
uxor ejus, obiit 12^o Novembris
An^o. 1579.

But this inscription is now entirely hidden. The length of the church towards the east, as well as towards the west, has undergone change from time to time. Whether the space between the (modern) "Norman" screen and the present east wall, which now does duty as a vestry, ever was included in the church itself, previous to 1852, or

whether it was only a passage from one part of the monastery to another, no one shall say for certain ; but, inasmuch as the window piercings opposite to each other, in the northern and southern walls at this end of the present church, are certainly not later than the Norman period, I strongly incline to the belief that it *was* anciently included in the church itself. Some eighteen years ago, when the surface of the churchyard was being levelled, an apsidal block of chalk with sharply-cut mouldings—20 ins. high and 18 ins. broad—was unearthed from beneath the branches of a holly tree in the churchyard. As to how long it had been buried there I can only surmise. Perhaps it was originally fixed into the wall of the present vestry, and that this led the architect (1852) to conclude that the “outhouse”, which the extreme east end of the present church then was—originally formed part of the church fabric itself. This apsidal block of chalk may have been the covering of a Piscina. In the Middle Ages there were at least two altars (Nos. 77, 187, 195). The piercings of the three east windows—two lancets and a bull’s-eye—are insertions of 1852. The Bath-stone screen, which has taken the place of a plain whitewashed wall immediately at the back of the altar-pace, was put up in 1852; and the removal of the tawdry paintings of Moses and Aaron, which were then relegated to the vestry, was a great improvement. Previous to 1852, a chastely wrought woodwork screen stood across the church, flush with the chancel step, which dated perhaps from the end of the eighteenth century. It is described as having consisted of “a narrow, central, semicircularly-headed archway between two wide flat-headed openings, flanked by rectangular ornamented pillars supporting a neatly-carved entablature, the console (or key) and spandrels of the central arch being adorned with finely-cut flowing foliage”; and this screen work was

continued against the north and south walls of the chancel "as a return arch." It is difficult to determine the exact object of a little stone recess in the wall on the outside of the church, immediately under the Decorated chancel window already referred to. It may have been an opening through which "to view and worship from the churchyard the relics of some Saint immured within the chancel." There is certainly a recess immediately under the chancel window inside the church, which is not at all unlikely to have been used as a Reliquary. This window has no deep downward splay below the sill, but the cavity in the wall is continued. At the time "Plantagenet" (Dr. Bromet) wrote his interesting articles, in 1839, to the *Gentleman's Magazine* on "Hurley Church and the Memorials of the Lovelaces" (pt. I, pp. 257-263 ; pt. II, pp. 27-32, 139-145), there were three rough planks still affixed to the most eastern tie-beam, and, as he suggests, the Holy Rood probably stood on these. The tie-beam to the west of this rood-loft had been sawn away, so that the people in church might the better see the Crucifix ; and in this condition they, of course, remained until they were "restored" away in 1852. The chancel door had, previous to 1839, been terribly deformed from its original fourteenth-century style. It is sad to listen to what "Plantagenet" has to tell of it.

Possibly "Plantagenet" is correct in his opinion that the wooden bell-turret which now stands on the western gable of the church, and on the outside of which, in 1839, he found a large sun-dial, was preceded by a bell-turret of heavy masonry ; but if so, why was it ever pulled down ? In a grant made by Henry IV on May 16th, 1401 (No. 489, note 1), to Hurley Church and Priory, the gift of wood from Windsor Forest, then made for repairs, includes the "Campanile" of the church. The bell-turret is now furnished with three bells, the same in number as were returned in the list sent

of goods at that time belonging to Hurley Church to the Commissioners of Edward VI, of whom Sir Philip Hoby, of Bisham Abbey, was one, on August 1st, 1552, by Thomas Hares and Thomas Davies, churchwardens of Hurley; and I do not think it at all unlikely that the second bell now in the turret was the only one which the churchwardens were allowed to retain, the other two being confiscated by the Crown. There is no name or initial on the waist or on any other part of this bell, but in Mr. Alfred H. Cocks' learned work on *The Church Bells of Buckinghamshire*, including histories of all the best-known bell-founders in England, the author has adduced ample evidence to show that our "second" bell was most probably founded by one John Saunders, of Reading, who succeeded to the business of John White, of that town, and who was a bell-caster there from about 1539 to about 1559, when he died at Reading. He was interred at St. Laurence's Church, a sixpenny fee being paid at his "buryall." He must have been, in his earlier life, connected in some way with Winchester, inasmuch as he constantly used the arms of the See of Winchester, viz., a sword crossing two keys, on bells which he cast for churches in various dioceses. This alone can in any way explain the presence of the Winchester arms on the "second" bell in the Hurley turret. The diameter of this bell is 31 inches. Around it runs the legend: "Scte Sebastia[n]e", in a style of lettering of which John Saunders was very fond. The lettering is interspersed with large stop "S's", and singularly enough the caster omitted at first the second "s" and the "n" in "Sebastia[n]e". The omission of the "s" was at once set straight by means of an insertion embossed at the top of the stop "S" which immediately follows "ba". Our tenor bell (diameter 35 ins.) occupies the eastern side of the turret, whilst the second and treble bells are in the centre and on

the western side respectively. This bell was cast by Joseph Carter, bell-founder, of Reading, in 1602. His initials "I. C." occur upon it, and also the date at which it was cast. On this bell, too, there is Carter's well-known stamp, four times repeated, viz., a crown and orb surmounting two crossed olive branches, on one side of which is an "E" and on the other an "R" ("Elizabetha Regina"). Carter, like Saunders, was a parishioner of St. Laurence's, and was buried there (May 21st, 1609). Our treble bell (diameter 28 ins.) is quite modern, having been made in London early in the present century. It bears the inscription: "T. Mears of London fecit". Its weight, moreover, is given upon it as "4 cwt. 2 qrs. 9 lbs.", and on the waist is "The Revd. Dr. Mavor, Vicar; William Gardiner, Henry Micklem, Churchwardens." These bells are all of excellent tone, and in perfectly sound condition. A handsome clock, which strikes the hours and chimes the quarters on these bells, was presented to the church in 1887, and is fixed in the bell-turret. The following inscription on a brass plate in the nave of the church records the gift as follows: "This clock was presented to Hurley Church in 1887, by Sir Gilbert Augustus Clayton East, of Hall Place, Baronet, and Dame Eleanor Theresa, his wife, in commemoration of the completion of the fiftieth year of Queen Victoria's Reign."

The principal architectural features of the church are the large west doorway leading into the nave, the west window, and the large south doorway.

I give a photograph of the west doorway (twelfth century) as it is at present. It was no doubt a difficult subject to deal with in 1852, when the church underwent considerable alteration. The work done to this doorway at that time has been adversely criticised, but in fairness to the architect one is led to inquire as to how he could have dealt with it better. "Plantagenet" thus describes it as it was in 1839:—

"The western doorway is a wide low semicircularly-headed triple arch, but its proportions have been much altered by the elevation of the ground about it, and by its being blocked up with a brick and rubble wall, so that only the face of the superior archway is now visible. This, however, is in good condition, and is decorated with a bold zigzag bead, cotised on each side by two zigzag conjoined fillets studded with closely placed square stunted pyramids, somewhat like the Early English tooth ornament; above and below which is a concentric large bead, the whole being under a bold dripstone originally corbelled, and resting on the outward ends of narrow moulded imposts. Beneath these imposts are broad pilaster-like jambs, having in hollow chamfer at the inward edge a cylindrical edge shaft, with a small singly cleft cushion capital, the abacus of which is a continuation of the impost; but the base of this column must be much under ground, its capital now being only about 4 feet above its surface. Interiorly, this arch has been cut rudely upwards, so that only part of its original soffit remains. It has plain sloped jambs, having also, in hollow chamfered edges, a shaft similar to the exterior shafts, and which, like them, has its base hidden. But as the interior shafts are visible 2 feet or 3 feet lower than the exterior shafts, it is very probable that, similarly to other Saxon churches, the floor was originally lower than the ancient door-sill and natural level of the ground." There was, in 1839, a modern door so unsightly and so entirely askew, towards the north, let into the wall which blocked up the doorway, that certainly no architect intrusted with the job of "restoring" a church in the year 1852 could have left things at the west end as they were. I was only twelve years old when the restoration took place; and so I prefer to depend upon the minute description given by "Plantagenet" of the architectural features of

the church, rather than to place dependence upon my own youthful recollections. I have a water colour of the west end, painted anterior to 1852; and our friendly critic is fully corroborated in his condemnation of the condition in which this beautiful piece of Norman work was found by him in 1839. But it must be remembered that Bishop Samuel Wilberforce's influence was not felt in Berkshire until 1845, during which year he became Bishop of Oxford, which diocese, since October 7th, 1836, has included Berkshire. There was much new work introduced into this doorway of Hurley Church in 1852, but the superior arch remains absolutely intact, and is one of the finest specimens of chevron, or zigzag, late Norman work to be found anywhere. The present dripstone which has roses as corbels is all modern. A small section of the inner arch of Norman zigzag, in chalk, remains. In the western gable, and immediately over the doorway, is a large Norman window of two semicircular and beautifully-executed arches, in chalk, in splendid preservation. Both the upper and the sub-arch are ornamented with compound Norman zigzag, and on the soffit of the lower one there is also zigzag work, but simple. The outer arch is supported by two long cylindrical shafts with capitals, from the abacus of which the arch springs. The sub-arch evidently at one time sprung also from imposts, of an order similar, no doubt, to the other shafts; but these are now gone. The dripstone, of Norman cable pattern with corbels of griffins' heads, is modern. The old dripstone was also a cable pattern. "The glazed part," says Plantagenet, "the *wind door*, which, before the use of window-glass in the seventh century, church windows literally were, has been much shortened, and is now divided by a large well-moulded mullion, evidently, however, a mere adventitious support of the incumbent architrave." All this closed-up

work and the mullion were swept away in 1852, and a very great improvement was made in bringing out the ancient lines of this unusually large and rare specimen of a Norman west window. The large south doorway, like the west doorway and window, "is an insertion of the twelfth century into the old Saxon wall. It is a triple archway, but we shall here only notice its exterior arch, which is pointed, and has a continuous cylindrical moulding set in a hollowed edge, and, although without a dripstone, there is no appearance of its having had an ancient porch. The present porch is comparatively modern." To these remarks I should like to add, *à propos* of the porch, that I have before me a copy of the will of William Rooke, Vicar of Hurley, made on September 1st, 1558, in which he says: "I bequeth mie soll to Almightye God or Ladie Sainte Marie and all the companie of Heaven and mie bodie to be buried in the church porch of Hurley aforesaid." So that this takes us back some distance into the past. The large south doorway, it is clear, was much altered in 1852, and there was a great deal of imitation-Norman work put in. But the beautifully moulded genuine zigzag Norman chalk here is some of the finest in the church. The cylindrical shafts which support the Norman arches on the inside of the great south and west doorways, with their chaste capitals, are good samples of early twelfth-century work. I can well remember the south porch, but I have no recollection at all of any part of the doorway. It was, of course, very much hidden by the wooden porch.

To appreciate the great antiquity of the church, I would invite attention to the northern wall, which is considerably out of the perpendicular, although absolutely safe. The stopped-up Norman doorway, exactly opposite to a similar one which leads into the refectory of the monastery, which is parallel with the church, and the rough,

rude nature of the masonry all along this side of the building are very remarkable. Until 1852 all the six windows on the north side of the church had been stopped up flush with the wall; for how long, who shall say? One of them, larger and much longer than the rest, was undoubtedly at one time a doorway leading from an upper storey in one of the monastic buildings into a gallery into the church. This I clearly established last year, by examining certain sections of the old monastic foundations, then temporarily laid bare for purposes of drainage by the present owner of Lady Place. The windows on the south side of the church have undergone considerable changes at different periods. There are certain Early English bases of window-shafts and a portion of the shafts themselves, all of Purbeck, which have been collected by myself and my family during recent years, and which are most likely appurtenant to the church or monastery.

On the south side, starting from the extreme east end, we come upon one of those rounded windows opening into the present vestry, with deep splays inside, which "Plantagenet" accounts as Saxon. I have yet, however, to be persuaded that any of the window-piercings now in the church are of a date more remote than very early Norman, although I maintain that by far the greater part of the church is certainly Saxon. The next is another "Saxon" window, but anterior to 1852 it had been elongated to something like double its original length, for purposes of getting more light into the church. Then comes the large fourteenth-century insertion already referred to. And next, another "Saxon" piercing, which, previous to 1852, had been converted into a large double-lighted window, with the original rounded head of the ancient window showing up above the more modern aperture. Next in order (in 1852) came two large sharp-headed lights between a large pointed spandrel; and then

followed another "Saxon" round-headed light, much lengthened. West of the porch, in this southern wall, came a window of two cinquefoliated lights, with the top of a "Saxon" rounded window at its head. Immediately overhead, in the slant of the roof, was a dormer window; and last of all came another "Saxon" light, opening into the gallery.

To all these was added yet another piercing in 1852, immediately above the great south doorway, in the shape of an entirely new rounded light. No doubt when, some centuries back, the windows in the north wall were all shut up, great changes took place also on the southern side; and I have shrewd suspicions that the three Purbeck mullion-bases now kept in the Vicarage, along with two small cylinder shafts of the same marble, are remains of Early English windows, which once found place in the church's southern wall. All these pieces of Purbeck were found close to the church. Previous to 1852 the pulpit, with sounding-board, prayer-desk and clerk's desk, was against the south wall, where a black marble tablet with a white cross on it is now affixed. The nave was filled with high pews. A return gallery, along the north wall as far as the window which immediately faces the large south doorway, was set apart for the two musicians who, with bass-viol and flute, afforded the entire instrumental accompaniment to the church singing. An organ was first used in the church in 1847. The only pieces of furniture in use before 1852 which now remain in the church are the pulpit, an old table now used as the altar, as well as a diminutive altar and large chest now kept in the vestry. All these are of oak. The panelled ends of the open sittings, which were carved in 1852 in imitation of the linen pattern of the pulpit, are a beautiful feature in the church; whilst the prayer-desk and lectern, as well as the seats in the chancel, are beautifully

picked out with Gothic tracery in the Perpendicular style. In fact, the sacred edifice has been made worthy in every particular of its splendid historical record. Previous to 1852, the wainscoting, far up the inside of the southern wall, was eaten away by dry rot, occasioned by the moisture which sweated through the thick composite of chalk and rubble from the churchyard soil outside.

The following is a list of goods belonging to Hurley Church which, including the bells already referred to, was sent in by the Hurley churchwardens on August 1st, 1552, to Edward VI's commissioners :—

“ A chalice & iij belles, a cope of white Damaske, a cope of red Damaske, a cope of blew Satten, a Vestm^t of crymsyn veluet embrodered, a Red vestm^t embrodered, a white vestm^t of satten of Briges, a vestm^t of blacke satten of briges, a vestm^t of red satten of briges, ij frontes for the hye alter of satten of briges, another fronte of Dornix, an olde fronte of white satten of briges, a crosse of latten w^t the fote, iij alter clothes, iij olde small Candlestickes, an olde paier of sensors, a shippe and iij olde crewettes of tynne, And all the saide percelles sauflly to be kept & preserued.” [“ Briges” is identical with Bruges, in Flanders. “ Dornix” is a tissue, or rich sort of stuff, manufactured at Tournay, originally known as Dorneck, a city in Flanders. The “ shippe”, or vessel in the shape of a boat, is used to store incense.]

The present communion plate is extremely chaste. It consists of a large flagon, a full-sized paten, a large chalice and spoon, with an accompanying paten-cover, each of these being made of massive silver. The flagon, chalice, and paten were all given to the church by Sir Henry Johnson, son-in-law of John, third Lord Lovelace of Hurley, two years after his lordship's death. This is that Lord Lovelace, under cover of whose hospitality

secret meetings of English nobles were held in the vaults of Lady Place—still standing—which resulted in the revolution of 1688, the dethronement of James II, and the bringing over of William of Orange. He died in 1693, and was buried at Hurley on October 6th. The flagon, which weighs 2 lbs. 8 ozs. 17 dwts. 6 grs. (troy), bears the London date-letter for 1695. The maker was a certain "I. S.", an unknown man. Underneath an elaborately-wrought coat-of-arms are the words: "The Gift of ye Hon. Sir Henry Johnson, Knt., to ye Parish Church of Hurley, 1695". The chalice, which weighs 1 lb. 8 ozs. 11 dwt. 3 grs. (troy), was probably made in 1655, and the initials of the maker are given as "G. B." The same coat-of-arms is on one side of this vessel and the same crest on another side of it as those which are engraved upon the flagon, whilst the date of the presentation of the chalice to the church and the name of the donor are carefully recorded on it. It is not usual to find Sacramental plate which was made during the Commonwealth, although there are some other instances in Berkshire of such plate having been made at that time of our history. The chalice paten-cover weighs 8 ozs. 4 dwt. 1 gr. (troy), and was made during the year 1635, or thereabouts. It bears the initials "B. F". The paten, weighing 10 ozs. 0 dwt. 12 grs. (troy), appears to have existed since 1693. It carries a finely-worked coat of arms and crest, together with the date of presentation to the church, along with the name of the donor. The coat of arms and the crest in each case are fine specimens of heraldic art. The Vicar of Hurley in 1695 was Daniel Ayshford.

The church at the present day is exactly in the same condition as it was when reopened after "restoration" by Bishop Wilberforce, on February 5th, 1853, except that the tie-beams, which had braced the walls in the church before its restoration, but which, at the suggestion

of the Bishop, were removed in 1852, were replaced, in support of the walls, in 1856. This was done because it was ere long apparent that the walls of the church were rapidly giving way, although apparently stronger than enough hitherto. In Saxon days the roof was of straw or rushes.

There is a substantial fund in the hands of the Vicar and churchwardens for the repair of the church. This is drawn from the rents of the church cottages, which stand on ground conveyed to "certeine of the pishners of Hurley aforesaid as appereth by a deed bering date the xxth day of Marche in the nynth year of the reigne of King Henry the seaventhe (1494), the profittes whereof have been tyme out of minde imployed to the reparaçons of the church aforesaid".¹ One of these cottages is remarkably old and picturesque, and I have no doubt that a portion of it was standing in 1494, when the property was given to the parish by the monastery. In an entry dated March 26th, 1706, it is called "The Town Hall," and it was on that day agreed that all parish meetings should be held in it. For years before the Poor Law Act of 1836, these four cottages were used as the parish workhouse, and the word "Hall" is still painted on the door of a large room in the back part of the house.

The church has, alas! been victimised by the Puritanical spirit of post-Reformation days. Empty *matrices* on the floor of the nave are a standing witness of "brasses" which they once enshrined. A figure in brass of a man in armour, with a greyhound under his feet, was to be seen on the floor in Ashmole's days; and when "Plantagenet" was at Hurley, in 1839, the upper part of the helmet, etc., still existed. Now all this is gone, and six Latin elegiacs

¹ *Charity Decrees and Inquisitions* (Petty Bag), 3rd Part, No. 17. Inquisitions at Wokingham, 6th April, 7 James I (1609).

alone remain to commemorate Johannes Doyly, who died
 “iiii^{to} Idus Februarii Anno Dni 1892.”

They run as follows :—

“Percelebris Doyly tenet hic locus ecce Joannem
 Eheu quem pestis hinc inopina tulit
 Dum sibi vita comes : fuit hic preclarus et annis
 Sanguineque : et virtus claruit ampla viro
 Tecum igitur pie Christe Jhesu fac vivat in evum
 Armiger iste : sibi celica dona parans
 Obiit iiii^{to} . Idus ffebruarii . Anno dñi . 1892.”

This inscription is in abbreviated form in old English lettering. I have retained the punctuation of the original. In the abbreviation of “Christe”, the engraver has cut a *p* instead of a *t*. The Pelasgic 8 in the date of the year is noticeable. Arabic numerals on buildings¹ do not occur in this country earlier than the end of the thirteenth century, namely, on the west front of Wells Cathedral, underneath the Resurrection groups which fill the niches below the great marble string of the front-north-west-tower and part of the south-west one ; and, amongst the *melée* of figures on this Early English masonry, the character “8” which appears on the Hurley brass is of frequent occurrence, to represent 4. The numerals at Wells were undoubtedly cut on the blocks to guide the builders when moving them to the Cathedral from the mason’s yard. The epithet “Percelebris”, attributed to “locus” in the first hexameter on the Doyly brass was not exaggerated nor used at random by the writer of this epitaph. It refers to the reverence paid to the memory of Princess Edith, sister of Edward the Confessor, who lies buried in Hurley Church.

This late fifteenth-century work, and “Jhu Mercy”, “Lady help” twice inscribed, on another stone is all the mediæval brass that is left in the church ; although in a beautiful slab

¹ Arabic numerals commence in MSS. in this country about the middle of the fourteenth century.

of Purbeck near the font there are still rivet-studs affixed to the *matrix* of an inscription plate.

A long deep stone, which seems to have covered a coffin of like material, was in the church in 1852, but it was removed in that year to the north-east corner of the churchyard. This is unfortunate, as it has suffered much from the forty-six years' exposure. The stone is surmounted by a design, the nature of which has been disputed by antiquaries. A long staff lies along the top, which is slightly arched, and at the head is a cross, which may be Maltese, of the fourteenth century. M. Baron says, according to Edmonston, that the Cross of Malta "may have its extremities ending in eight, twelve, or sixteen points". Our cross (*pattée*) has three of its extremities double-notched, with the centre of each *pattée* rounded; the other ends are pointed. After long research I arrive at the conclusion that it is the coffin-stone of a prior, and that it possibly covered one of the three Benedictines, whose remains were discovered under the vaulted arches still existing in Lady Place. A flat slab, which formed part of the pavement of these vaults when the mansion was pulled down in 1837, is now in Hurley Vicarage. It bears the following inscription: "Three bodies in Benedictine habits found under this pavement." It is the legend on this stone which enables us to determine that these vaults were once the crypt of the monastery. The basement of Hurley Church is one large sepulchre. Several leaden coffins of Benedictines were discovered in it (one measuring 9 ft. in length and 3 ft. in breadth) whilst making a vault during the present century. Many others besides monks are buried in the church or chancel.

The tithes of Hurley were commuted into a tithe-rent charge in 1843, and the value of the vicarial tithe was then assessed at £250 2s. The remainder of the endowment of

the living consists of a rent-charge of £6 13s. 4d., granted by Sir Richard Lovelace in 1625, to commence at his death; a piece of glebe land of about an acre, in the meadow opposite Medmenham Abbey, and a vicarage house standing on ground near the church, measuring an acre and fifteen poles. The older half of the present vicarage was once a farmhouse, and did not become the property of the church until the year 1844, when it was purchased from the Hon. Henry Walker, who succeeded his brother as fifth Viscount Ashbrook in 1847. The old vicarage stood on the north of, and close to, the stables and billiard room of Hurley Manor House. I remember helping to pull it down when I was a boy. It was in a terribly dilapidated condition. Dr. Mavor, who was Vicar of Hurley from 1789 to 1838, resided at Woodstock, of which place he was also the Incumbent. The advowson of the living was purchased in 1848 by the Rev. F. J. Wethered, who had at that time been Vicar of Hurley for ten years, and who, in 1850, added greatly to the house, and laid out the garden entirely afresh. The amount of money expended upon permanent church work in Hurley village, during the late vicar's incumbency, amounted to a sum of considerably more than £4,000, including the enlargement of the vicarage (1850), the restoration of the church (1852), and the rebuilding and enlargement of the school (1865). The frontage of the new part of the present vicarage is in imitation of the southern aspect of the splendid Elizabethan mansion in Lady Place, originally built by one of the Lovelace family, which was wantonly pulled down for the sake of the materials of which it was made, in December, 1837.

The church registers date back to 1560. They are in excellent preservation, and are perfect and continuous throughout, including the time of the Commonwealth.

CHAPTER II.

A BENEDICTINE MONASTERY.

St. Benedict—Abingdon Abbey—Reading Abbey—Lady Place, Hurley—The Prison—The Cloisters—The Priory Buildings—The Refectory—The Granary—The Dovecote—The Bakehouse—The Brewhouse—The Monks at work—Their Hospitality—New Lock Fishery—Mediæval names of Hurley Fields—Mediæval Floods at Hurley—Dissolution of the Priory.

FROM the date of foundation to that of dissolution, Hurley Priory was of the Benedictine Order : a cell to the Abbey of Westminster. St. Benedict was born of noble blood, at Norcia, in Italy, about the year 480. Whilst studying in Rome, with high promise for the future, he was horrified at the immoral lives of his fellow-students, and went into seclusion at the age of fifteen, passing his time as a hermit in the strictest asceticism. His name and fame soon spread, and many eager disciples flocked to his cave. After sore trials and vicissitudes, he founded that monastery which has ever since been regarded as the parent of the Benedictine Order. His principle was to flee from sin, rather than to live in the world and grapple with it; and, although we may think that monastic seclusion is by no means the highest ideal of the Christian life, we must in fairness remember that the flagrancy of sin, and the unbridled license of immorality in those distant days were a terrible shock to such a pure mind as his. Heathenism, pure and simple, had by no means entirely left Italy. On Monte Cassino stood a temple of Apollo, but its wild devotees were converted by St. Benedict. Their grove was set on fire at his persuasion, the

image of their god was broken, and higher up on the mountain side the first Benedictine monastery was up-reared. Poverty, chastity, obedience and manual labour were the four obligations of this new Order. Before his death, on March 21, 543, monasteries of the Order were established in most parts of Europe, although there were none in England until the following century. The Cluniacs were a reformed order of the Benedictines, and these appeared in Sussex for the first time under the auspices of Gundrada, a stepdaughter of the Norman Conqueror, who was thus the first to introduce the Benedictines into our country. A metal cist containing Gundrada's remains is preserved in a chapel of the Church of St. John the Baptist at Southover, adjoining Lewes, to the present day. The Cluniacs, in turn, themselves needed reformation; and, under the leadership of the great St. Bernard, Stephen Harding, an Englishman, as Abbot of Citeaux, developed the sub-order of Cistercians, to which Medmenham Abbey (founded in the reign of King John, as an annex of Woburn Abbey, in Bedfordshire, which had been established by Walter de Bolebec in the time of King Stephen) belonged. As scholars, librarians, artists, schoolmasters, scribes and agriculturists, the great Benedictine Order took the lead amongst all the other Orders in England. They were the lump of leaven which leavened everything: of this there is no shadow of doubt. "Wherever they carried the cross they also carried the plough." Glastonbury was the first of their Abbeys in England, and Abingdon came next in sequence. In the days of Centwin (676-685) Hean secured a grant of land in Bagley Wood, at Abba's Hill, from his uncle Cissa, a sub-king of Wessex, to build a monastery. But there were great delays. Hean's sister, Cilla, had more energy than her brother, and she at once founded a nunnery in honour of St. Helena, the mother of Constan-

tine: hence the name of Abingdon parish church, St. Helen's. This nunnery was, later, removed to Wytham. Hean was absolved from his vows in 699, and never founded the Abbey, which was, however, established near St. Helen's Church at some date previous to May 25, 709. Abba, from whom Abingdon takes the name, was an early settler in Berkshire. It is interesting to notice that at Seukesham, by which name Abingdon itself was known previous to the foundation of the Abbey, a black cross was discovered, amongst other Christian relics of British times; and this became the "Palladium" of the Abbey. During the latter half of the ninth century this monastery was burned to the ground by the Danes, who left only the bare walls standing: a fate which in all probability befell the church at Hurley. King Alfred, however, rebuilt the monastery. It was later enriched by St. Ethelwold, the father of monks, who determined to make it the most perfect of Abbeys; and so, indeed, it afterwards became. Henry I was there educated, and received the name of Beauclerc. The monastery was dissolved in 1538, and very little of it is now left. Reading is another very famous Benedictine Abbey of the Cluniac branch in this immediate neighbourhood. It was founded in 1121 by Henry I, who was brought thither for burial and placed in a tomb before the high altar. The first charter was granted in 1125, and the monastic church was finished in 1164, and consecrated by Archbishop Thomas à Becket. The Abbey was very richly endowed, and its chief ruler had supreme power over the good citizens of Reading—who did not, however, always approve of his jurisdiction. Of this they were relieved at the dissolution of the monasteries, and Hugh Farringdon, their last Abbot, was hanged outside the inner gate of his Abbey. Many historical events of great interest occurred in Reading Abbey: *e.g.*, Heraclius, patriarch of Jerusalem, presented

the keys of the Holy Sepulchre to King Henry II in the chapter-house, and secured his aid against the Saracens (1185). The marriage of John of Gaunt with Blanche, daughter of Henry Plantagenet, was solemnised in this Abbey. The inner gateway still remains, with the Abbot's court room ; three piers of the monastic church, upon which the great central tower rested ; the south transept, slype, chapter-house, dormitory ; one wall of the refectory, and the hospitium.

The Abbots of both Abingdon and Reading were mitred, and as such had seats in the House of Lords. When compared with such great religious houses as those of Abingdon and Reading, the foundations of Wallingford and Hurley are thrown, of course, very much into the shade. The Benedictine monastery of Wallingford was founded at some date anterior to 1093, and that of Hurley a few years before.

The first great essential of a monastery was a church. The avoidance of sin and the worship of God were the great aims and objects of monachism ; and it was because he found a church all ready to his hand that our founder established his monastery on the banks of the Thames in Hurley village. Some of the buildings of our monastery seem to have been situated inside the walls of that square enclosure of greensward, known as "Lady Place Lawn," measuring a few poles more than ten acres and three-quarters, exclusive of the moat, fish-ponds and kitchen garden.

The vaults still standing in Lady Place, immediately under the central portion of the pulled-down mansion, were evidently a crypt of the monastery : foundations of chalk are still to be seen in them. There is a strange little chamber in the vaults, only a few feet square, which may have been a prison cell. An inhabitant of Hurley,

still alive, can remember in her younger days an iron ring in one of the walls. There are two iron hinges in the doorway, which seem to have supported a remarkably strong door. King Henry III gave our Priory the rights of "infangentheof" and "outfangentheof," too, by means of a charter dated at Woodstock, February 27, 1236 (No. 56). "Infangentheof" gave the liberty of taking and judging a thief *within* the Lord's manor, and "outfangentheof"—the power of taking and judging a thief from *outside* it. At a somewhat later date, we find that in an Assize Roll for the year 1284 (A. R. 48—12 Edw. I) the jurors presented that John Whytyng was taken for a certain theft of a hog and imprisoned in the prison of John de Lyra, sometime Prior of Hurley (No. 92); who so detained him at will, and afterwards permitted him to go, and the jurors in no wise suspected the aforesaid John Whytyng. And it was commanded the sheriff that he distrain the aforesaid Prior, to show by what warrant he claims to have a prison, etc.¹

The large hall of the Lady Place mansion may have been a chapel of the monastery. The refectory of our Priory stands some yards north of, and parallel with, the Saxon, or eastern, portion of the north wall of the church. About 9 ft. from the ground there are, to this day, sawn-off beams which clearly formed the roof of a corridor from the extreme east end of the northern wall to the blocked-up Norman doorway, which is exactly opposite to a doorway of the same period in the refectory. It is evident from the different shade of colour on the southern

¹ The self-same Assize Roll mentions a king's prison at Bray, six miles only from Hurley. It would seem, therefore, as though this command to distrain the Prior was out of jealousy of the feudal laws, and was intended to cancel the rights of "infangentheof" given by the late king (Henry III) to our Priory.

wall of the refectory that a covered ambulatory ran along the south side of the building, exactly in correspondence with that along the north wall of the church. These two Norman doorways were clearly connected by another covered ambulatory; and thus we get an almost perfect sketch of the old monastery cloister, which, it will be seen, was less than one-half in extent of the quadrangle at the back of the church at the present day.

The *Sussex Archæological Collections* (vol. xviii, pp. 54, 55) draws attention so well to the usual construction of a monastery that I quote from it. "The rule of the construction of a monastery was to place its principal buildings upon the sides of a quadrangle. The quadrangle had a covered passage all round it, which was the cloister, and was the means of communication between the various buildings. Upon one side of the quadrangle, either the north or the south, was the church; opposite the church was the refectory, or dining-hall; upon the east side of the quadrangle was one arm of the transept of the church when, as usually [not always], it was a cross church; next to it a sacristy (Nos. 69, 170, 189), then the chapter-house (Nos. 433, 470, 515, etc.); and, lastly, the common room of the monks, whilst an upper storey contained the dormitory. Upon the west side of the cloister was the cellary (No. 506), where the stores for daily use were in reserve, and over it was the dormitory for the servants of the monks."

The essential buildings of all monasteries were (1) the church (2), the cloister (3), the dormitory (4), the refectory (5), the chapter-house.

When Edward the Confessor rebuilt Westminster Abbey he made it cruciform. That was a new style in this country, and was much imitated. Hurley Church was built long before the days of transepts. At Westminster the great cloister was probably finished in 1364, but the

consistory or chapter-house was built in 1250. The common seal of Hurley Priory in 1303 had "sigillum commune capituli Priorat' Hurley" (No. 130) upon it; but it is not until September 3, 1372, that any of the "Hurley Charters and Deeds" are dated expressly from the Priory chapter-house (No. 470), nor have we any means of knowing the date at which it was built. The situation of our chapter-house, if we follow the building plans of the Abbeys of Westminster and Tintern, and of the Monastery of St. Mary's, York—all these being of the Benedictine Order—would have been either where the buildings, known nowadays as the "Bachelor Buildings" of Lady Place are situated, or a few feet to the east of the door of these buildings, just inside Lady Place lawn. At Westminster and St. Mary's, York, the cloisters and refectory were on the south side of the church, but at Tintern they were on the north; and, if we are to follow the ground plan of Westminster, and remember that the cloisters were north instead of south, which most certainly at Hurley was the case, then the Prior's lodgings would be on the western side of the quadrangle now known as "Paradise." During certain excavations made in this quadrangle in the spring of 1897, for purposes of drainage, by Mr. C. W. Boyle, the present owner of Lady Place, five different sets of foundations, running parallel with each other north and south across the square, were laid bare at varying distances from each other, one of them being as much as $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in thickness, and another $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in thickness. The subsoil consisted of made earth (gravel) to a depth of $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft., measuring downwards from 8 ins. below the present surface. It was evident that the ground had been raised at the foundation of the present monastery, to elevate it as much as possible above the level of the Thames, close by. It was clear, on examination, that a passage ran

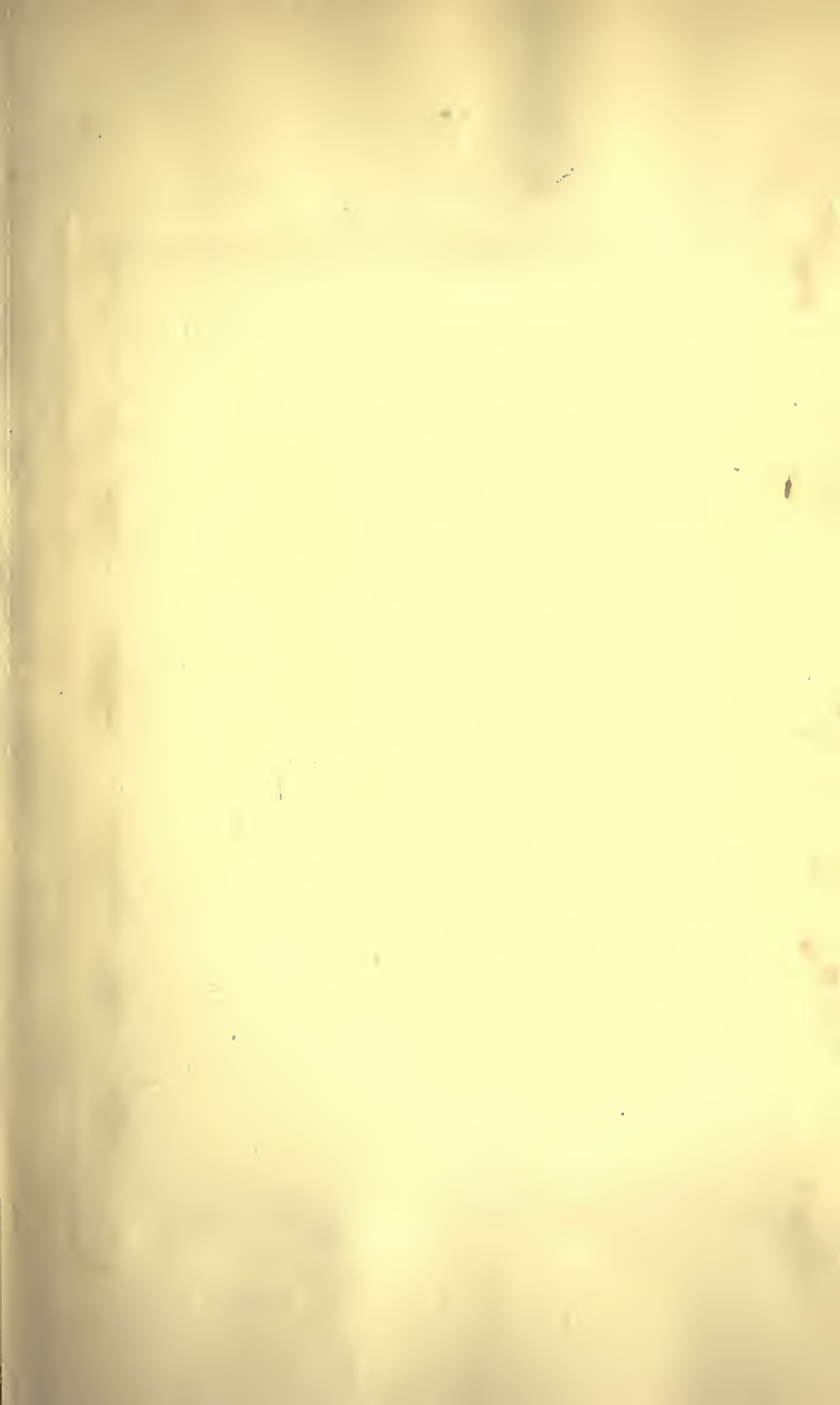




along an upper storey of a building through the deep Norman window in the Norman wall, opposite to the present position of the church font, by which an entrance was made into a gallery of the church. The garth, or greensward, in the middle of our cloisters would thus be reduced to very small dimensions. The kitchen was no doubt close to the refectory, perhaps to the west of it, where an outhouse now stands, used as stables. The spade would be a better geographer than I can pretend to be as to the whereabouts of the dormitories, the hospitium, the cellary, and the bakehouse.

The photographs of the dovecote and of the refectory of our Priory have been taken specially for this memoir, by a member of my family, with the object of bringing out the architectural features of these old buildings as they were, and as they are at the present moment, without any attempt to make them the centres of a pretty picture. The refectory, which measures 70 ft. in length by 20 ft. in breadth, is of two distinct periods. The lower part is Norman, built soon after the foundation (*c.* 1086-87) of the monastery, the upper portion being of very early Decorated style, 1307, or even earlier. On the jambs of the most western of the Gothic windows on the northern side (and to the right, as we look at the photograph), are very distinct traces of fresco work. The inscriptions, on metal plates, on the southern side are of no special interest. One of them, at the bottom of the closed window to the right of the spectator, runs as follows: "I, Maud, daughter of King Henry, and Governess of the English, do give and grant to Gaufred de Mandeville, for his service, and to his heirs after him hereditarily, the Earldom of Essex, and that he have the third penny of the sheriffs court, issuing out of all pleas as an Earl ought to receive from his country in all things." This is the antientest Charter that Mr. Camden

ever saw (Nos. 6, 7, 8). This is the Charter of the Empress Matilda, of 1141. (There is, however, a still more ancient charter to be seen—that of King Stephen, of 1140, which created this same Geoffrey, grandson of our founder, to this self-same Earldom, although no mention is made in Stephen's charter, here referred to, of the "third penny of the Sheriff's Court.") Underneath this inscription is a slate slab inscribed as follows: "The priory of S. Mary's, Hurley, founded in the reign of William the Conqueror, by Geoffrey de Mandeville and his wife Lecclina, A.D. 1086, a cell to Westminster Abbey." It is probable that all these inscriptions now in "Paradise," as the present cloister is styled, were erected by Mr. Joseph Wilcocks, a former owner of Lady Place, who succeeded Mrs. Lewin in 1771, and died some twenty years later, an old man. In "Hurley Charters and Deeds" there is a grant made late in the thirteenth century, of much interest (No. 119) in connection with the refectory. It is by William Seger, Prior of Hurley, to Randulf, the Marshal, "for his homage and service," and consists of "the Severn" meadow at a rent of two pence, etc., and a list of the various duties which are expected to be fulfilled by the Marshal of the Priory is added to the grant. First, he is to act as server in Hall each day at the monks' dinner, as is fitting, not omitting to carry his rod of office: he is to attend to and repair the shoes of the monks' horses and of their oxen used for ploughing, and, when necessary, to forge and put on new shoes—the Priory binding itself to find new iron and nails, whilst the old iron is to be the Marshal's perquisite: whenever necessary he is to scrub clean the refectory floor, and to cause it to be bestrewed with straw and green stuff—the straw to be fetched "from our granary," and the green stuff to be gathered on the premises; that is, the straw was to be fetched from the tithe barn near the dovecote, and





The Refectory, Northern Aspect.

fresh rushes from the fish-ponds in Lady Place ; and when this floor-litter should be done with, it is expressly provided in this parchment deed that the sweepings-up (*mundicionis fecem vetus stramen ac pulverem*) should be considered as the Marshal's perquisite ; and, moreover, each time he had cleared up or carried away the dead rushes from the floor, as a matter of grace (*ex urbanitate*), he was to be rewarded by a piece of bread and a drink of convent beer. The dovecote, which from the buttresses may be settled as also of the early Decorated period (*c.* 1307), is of the greatest interest. The countless niches, or nests, of chalk within this most picturesque old building are very remarkable. When William of Ipswich, Prior of Hurley, and the convent, bargained with John Terry, in 1389, for some reason or another not explained (No. 493), to give him a pension including 200 pigeons, the resources of the dovecote were considerably taxed. The jambs and the lintel of the pigeon-house doorway are more modern in date than the walls. On the front of the lintel the date 1642 occurs, with C. R. to follow : the date and the R. being quite distinct. A pointed top to the doorway, immediately above, is blocked in by masonry.

Besides the buildings already named, our monastery possessed a bakehouse, a brewhouse, and, of course, a kitchen. All its needs were supplied on the spot. The cooper, the carpenter, the tailor, the tiler, the smith, the fuller and the dyer, are all mentioned in the "Hurley Deeds". In June, 1299, William de la Grenedoune, builder, and his heirs, entered into an agreement with Richard de Waleden, Prior of Hurley, (Nos. 117, 118, covenant and counterpart) as follows :—The builder was to have the use of the grindstone at his shop, which he held of the Priory, on condition that he consented to grind three principal choppers belonging to the said chapter : that is, one for the

bakehouse, one for the kitchen, and one for the brewhouse ; and also three scythes of theirs at the time of the mowing of the meadows (pratorium), at his own cost ; and the chapter undertook on its part to supply timber to keep the woodwork of the grindstone in repair. There was a secretary (No. 27), a sacristan (No. 27), a chamberlain (No. 506), and a cellarer (No. 506) to our Priory.

It is not uninteresting here to notice the contents of No. 123 of our charters, in which Walter de Wenlock, Abbot, and the convent of Westminster, approve of an assignment made on February 3rd, 1300, by Richard de Waldene, Prior of Hurley, and the convent of Hurley, towards the clothing of fifteen monks "in our convent of Hurley" of a hundred "silver shillings" (solidos) of annual rent, paid by the Abbot and convent of Walden¹ every year, and the same amount of annual rent by the brethren of the Hospital of Jerusalem, London. These Knight-Hospitalers (instituted *c.* 1092), were Augustinians, wearing a black garb with white cross, and taking their name from a hospital at Jerusalem for pilgrims to the Holy Land. Their hospital was dedicated to St. John the Baptist. Their settlement in London commenced in 1100. The charter of 1300 gave in favour of fifteen of our monks ten solidi to each, over and above their ordinary allowance ; and also to those who were "anniversarii" of Richard, a former Prior of Hurley, and other predecessors, namely, tithes of corn in demesne lands formerly belonging to Robert of Waltham, and an annual rent of the fuller's mill at Hurley, etc., and twenty solidi of annual rent of Staines, with four solidi of annual rent of Hertfeld, and three solidi of annual rent of Henley. And it was further provided in the charter that "if it happens that any one or more be

¹ Walden Abbey was founded by Geoffrey de Mandeville, first Earl of Essex.





The Dovecote.

transferred from the bosom of the church of Westminster by the Lord Abbot to us for any cause in future time, we will and grant that, at the end of the year completed of his or their arrival, they shall have their separate chamber (cameram) as the rest of our brethren at Hurley, notwithstanding the number of fifteen monks above mentioned or the order aforesaid". We thus have evidence that our Mother Church at Westminster cared for and attended to her children at Hurley.

The brethren rose each morning at six at the ringing of the skilla, washed and dressed, and then went to mass. After that followed the mixtum, or breakfast. Then they met and consulted, and each went about his appointed duty of the day. Here perhaps sat a monk illuminating a manuscript; there another was instructing little boys. The sacristan had to attend to the church, and to look after the tapers (No. 27). The cocus and the pistor (baker) had plenty to do in the kitchen and bakery (No. 29), not only for the monks and the guests of the convent, but for pensioners outside. The prepositus, or steward, had his work to do (No. 126). The camerarius looked after the rooms of the house (No. 506). The marshal had to see to the horses, and his other various duties (No. 119). The pincerna had to perform his duties as butler in the refectory (Nos. 148, 159). The columbarius had to attend to the pigeons in the dovecote (Nos. 80, 493). The molendinarius, just outside Lady Place (Nos. 81, 124), had his corn to grind "at our mills, which are situate on the Thames", along "Mill Lane" [Milnestrete]. And, then, there was the forestarius, or woodward (No. 99, 116), who had his work cut out for him in Ashley Hill Wood: no light task under the feudal forest laws. It is not devoid of interest to notice that when Henry III gave his wondrous charter of concessions to our Priory (in 1236), he expressly accorded

them as follows (No. 56):—"We quit-claim moreover all their lands and encroachments already made, and all their assarts [grubbed lands], and those belonging to their men who are not earls or barons already made and who shall hereafter be made with the royal assent, in their favor for ever, so far as (forfeiture for) waste and reward¹ and the inspection of the foresters are concerned, and as regards other (fines) which pertain to the forest or the foresters; and, that they and their successors for ever and their men aforesaid, so far as their holdings which they occupy under them are concerned, shall be freed from the obligation of cutting their dogs' feet [*de canum expeditatone*]." This cutting of the dogs' feet means that the owners of dogs who came within the forest laws were ordinarily compelled to expeditate, or cut out, the ball of the dogs' feet to protect the king's game. In the case of a mastiff, the three claws on the fore-foot on the right side were to be cut off by the skin, every three years. Then, again, our priors had charge over (No. 116) the bailiff [*reeve*], the beadle, the ale-taster [*aleconnerwyke*], and the tithing-man [*tezyngmanwyke*]. In a "surrender" executed late in the thirteenth century (No. 88), Theobald, Prior, confirms William Mareschall, of Kingham, in his triple office of forester, beadle and granger. The granger looked after the tithe-barns near the dovecote. There was an ostiarius and a janitor (No. 19); these were doorkeepers of two different classes.—With the Romans, the "ostium" was, strictly and specially, an entrance in the interior of the house, whilst "janua" would be properly the front door.—In the "frankpledge" grant later referred to (No. 235), the "view" is mentioned as taking place "*extra portam prioratus*". This would be the entrance of the convent enclosure, as distinct from all that was "*forinsecus*" or outside it. There are evident traces of

¹ Money paid for detecting felony.

the chalk foundations of the monastic enclosure near the churchyard gates.

The hospitality of the monasteries was proverbial. No one was refused sanctuary within their walls, and payment was made by strangers according to their means and inclinations. Every one, no matter how low his station, was admitted into the monastery on an emergency. The readiness of the Hurley monks to take custody of deeds of transfer, etc., many of which had nothing to do with the Convent, is evidence of their anxiety to help those outside their gates. Every detail was taken into reckoning, even to old horse-shoes and nails (No. 119). Their accounts were most exact, to half-pence, farthings, and half-farthings. One of the deeds (No. 489), is a grant, dated May 13th, 1387, by William of Ipswich, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, at the instance of the Earl of Derby, who was afterwards Henry IV, in favour of Peter Peterwych, one of his servants, bestowing on him "one white convent loaf, one flagon (?gallon) of convent beer, and one mess of cooked meat, equal to the commons of one monk as served in the refectory, daily, for the remainder of his life"; whilst a chamber in the priory was placed at his disposal whenever he liked to use it [*quamecunque ibi voluit personaliter habitare*]. The Earl of Derby is referred to in this deed as "fundatoris domus nostre", and so he must have been a very great benefactor to Hurley indeed. Before he had been two years on the throne as Henry IV, he made a grant of timber to the value of 100 marks from Windsor Forest, "wherewith to repair St. Mary's Church, the Campanile, and the Priory buildings."

Mary de Bohun, who was married to Henry IV while he was still Earl of Derby, was daughter of Humphry, Earl of Hereford. She was thus in direct descent from our actual founder, Geoffrey de Mandeville I, through

his grand-daughter Beatrice, whose grand-daughter in turn was married to Geoffrey Fitz Piers, fourth Earl of Essex in the time of Richard I. Maud, eldest daughter of this fourth Earl, was married to Henry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, and Mary de Bohun was in direct lineage of descent from this last-named Earl. In his charter to Hurley, King Henry IV refers to the fact of his connection with the De Mandevilles; and in it he speaks of our monastery as existing "by the foundation of the progenitor of Mary, our late dearest consort, and under our patronage" (*de fundatione progenitoris Marie nuper consortis nostræ carissimæ defunctæ et nostro patronatu*).

The hospitium was one of the most important of a monastery's buildings.

The daily "commons", or portion, of each monk was called a corody. When the King founded a religious house in olden times, a sum of money, or an allowance of meat, drink and clothing, was due to him towards the maintenance of any one of his servants on whom he might choose to bestow it. Corodies also belonged to bishops. Indeed, it ended in corodies being owned by common people, and in their being transmissible, not only for life or years, but in fee. Corodies were negotiable (No. 474). A striking "ordinance" of our Priory was made on December 16, 1313, as to the tenure of these corodies. It provides (No. 214) for the adoption by Hurley Priory of the custom observed at the Mother Church at Westminster, of continuing "one monk's corody daily in the refectory, as well as his chamber at the hands of the Chamberlain" for a whole year after a brother's death, as though he were still alive, so as to form a fund to pay for a year's masses for his soul.

During the time that Theobald was our Prior, (Hen. III—Edw. I), William Marescall and Juliana his wife surren-

dered all their land at Kingham, in Oxfordshire, to the Priory, in exchange for "a convent loaf, two loaves of 'seconds,' a gallon of convent beer, and another gallon of 'second' beer, one mess of the kitchen meat with potage, daily; five shillings every year, two cartloads of wood at Easter and Michaelmas, with a suitable house" (No. 88).

In a quit-claim of the thirteenth century (No. 121) the Priory gives to Ysabel, widow of Richard Norfreys, besides meat and potage daily, beer and bread, including "one loaf which is called Pricketlof, and five shillings a year for clothing at Midsummer," and provides her a house in Hurley for life in exchange for the third of a hide of land held by her as dower in Kingham, etc. Then, again, in 1320 (No. 234), Richard de Coleworth and the convent concede to Geoffrey de Hurle and his wife a quantity of bread and beer and vegetables daily, and on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays during every year, except in Advent, and from Septuagesima to Easter, and on other solemn fast days, two messes of "fat meats" of different kinds "good and congruous;" and on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays two messes "as good and congruous," at the same time as the monks have their portions served out in the refectory on those days; and in 1336 (No. 315) a corody of two white convent loaves, each weighing $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., and a flagon and a-half of the best convent beer is allowed to Richard le Warriner, of Great Marlow. Gamekeepers in those days evidently enjoyed their "glass"! I have given instances of some of these grants to show the kind of fare which obtained in our convent, and to give some idea of the amount doled out to many who lived beyond its walls. It will be noticed how bread and beer seem to have been a staple commodity in the way of food at the Priory. Potage, too, was a very favourite diet.

In a grant (No. 235) of 1320, one of the parties to the arrangement was a certain Geoffrey de Hurle, who had the option given to him of paying sixpence a year on the occasion of a view of frankpledge, or else to stand "a drink" (poturam) to the steward, clerk and beadle.

The 'peppercorn' does not occur amongst the rents paid, but there are some very remarkable kinds of rents amongst the deeds. Thus, seven acres of land in Hurley, "whereof one extends in Sauerne" ["the Severn"] and another "towards the oak between the sacristy land and the land of John the builder," were granted by John, son of Nicholas de la More, of Bray, to Dom. John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, for a clove of gillyflower (No. 189); while Gervase, son of Richard Spragan, granted to John de Quercu, "perpetual" Vicar of Hurley (No. 192), a messuage, etc., in Hurley, at a rent of a pair of gloves, or one penny at Midsummer. Both these last instances are in Edward I's reign. But the prettiest of all these quit-rents is a lease and counterpart by John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to the widow of Geoffrey de Hurle, of a messuage called the Stonehouse, in the hamlet of Hurley, at the rent of twopence at Michaelmas, the same at Easter, and one red rose at Midsummer (No. 393). An interesting lease occurs, in 1461, by Jeffrey Poole, "squyer" of Medmenham, and Edith his wife, to Dom. Edward Downe, Prior, and the convent of Hurley (No. 530), by which their water and fishing, with a weir and "lockestaple," is conveyed for eighty years at a rent of £1 6s. 8d. yearly. This is clearly Newlock Weir. The capstan, or windlass, by means of which barges were pulled up with long ropes before Hurley Pound Lock was made, in or about the year 1824, still exists. The barge horses, sometimes fourteen in number, used to tow barges upstream from Marlow on the Buckinghamshire side of the Thames, and

so by way of Harleyford to a point below Newlock. The horses were then detached from the barge, and were taken by bargees back again to Temple Ferry, where they crossed over to the Berkshire shore and proceeded to a wooden swing-bridge below Hurley Mill (No. 124), across the canal to the 'Bucks' meadow, and then, again, across the canal into Lock Meadow. Opposite New Lock they were rejoined by the barge, which had, meanwhile, been towed across the broad reach of the river below Danesfield by the tug-boys, who had wound up the rope on to the capstan and so dragged the barge through the rapids after the lock staples, or hatches, had been removed. Hurley Lock dates from 1824, or thereabouts.

The first of the charters dates from the foundation of Hurley Priory; the last charter is dated July 3rd, 1536 (No. 562). By it Henry VIII conveyed the site of the Priory and all Hurley Manor (in exchange) to Westminster Abbey, except the great wood "near the thicket"; but in the same year the Abbot and convent of Westminster conveyed to the King their garden called "Covent Gardeyn, and seven acres of land lyeing without the said gardeyn and nere adjoyning to the same in ye parrysche of Seynt Martin wythout ye towne of Westminster." In exchange, Parliament enacted that the Abbot and convent should have and hold to them and their successors for ever, "one great wood called Hurley Wood, in Berkshire, sometyme parcell of the Priory of Hurley." In 1541-42 the King re-conveyed the whole manor of Hurley to Charles Howard, having re-confiscated it—from Westminster. On June 12, 1543, Leonard Chamberlain paid £116 for it to Charles Howard, and on March 1, 1544, 850 marks in addition. On May 19 of the same year Chamberlain surrendered the whole manor to the King, with a payment to him of £400. Whereupon, the King kindly granted it all to Chamberlain back

again! John Lovelace died on August 25, 1558, and was buried at Hurley. A large monument in the Sanctuary of St. Mary's Church stands as his memorial. One of his descendants—either his son, Richard, who was buried at Hurley on March 12, 1602, or else his son Richard, created Lord Lovelace of Hurley by Charles I, on May 30, 1627, and buried at Hurley on April 28, 1634—built the mansion known as Lady Place, or Hurley House. The last Lord Lovelace who was buried at Hurley was the grandson of the first Baron, on October 6, 1693.

In the *London Gazette* for October 21 to October 24, 1689, before me as I write, is the following advertisement: "This is to give Notice, That my Lord Lovelace's Plate is to be run for on Clireden [Cliveden] Heath or Common, and the Dinner to be at the Bear at Maidenhead, there being no room at Hurly for the Gentlemen and their horses." This man has been described as "*Avitæ virtutis degener heres*". And the description was correct. The life of this historic personage does not, however, come within the scope of the present memoir. He was succeeded by John Lovelace, his second cousin. The Barony became extinct when Nevil, sixth Baron, and younger son of the last-named John, died in 1736. The present Earl of Lovelace is in the descent, but through the female line.

Four shillings a year from the church of Easthampstead, in Berkshire, and a messuage and lands in Kingham, in Oxfordshire, are mentioned (see No. 562, and note) amongst the different items of exchange made with Westminster Abbey in 1536. The "four shillings" charged on Easthampstead Church are those referred to in No. 27 as granted in favour of the Priory by Ralph de Arundel at the end of the twelfth century (see also "Hurley Seals," No. CIV, 36), whilst charters Nos. 9 and 10 explain that Arnulph and Ralph de Mandeville

were the original donors of the land which our Priory owned in Kingham, in King Stephen's reign (1135-1154). The manner in which our Prior and Convent obtained possession of the church at Easthampstead was by gift of Laurence, Abbot of Westminster, who presented them with it in order that they might observe and venerate the festival of the blessed Edward the Confessor, who died on January 5, 1066, and whose body was translated on October 13, 1163 (Nos. 16, 23).

I have discovered, by comparing the names of the lands in Hurley mentioned in the Hurley Deeds, that between the earlier part of King Henry III's reign (1216-1272), and February 20th, 1475, no less than an acreage of 685 acres, 1 rood, and 30 poles, out of a total parish acreage of 4,159 acres, bore in the Middle Ages similar names to those by which they were known when the Tithe Apportionment Terrier for Hurley was scheduled in 1843. A minute examination of these charters and deeds will be amply repaid. The names of persons and places connected in some way or other with this noble collection of parchments and papers, both in this neighbourhood and in other parts of England, are a marvel in themselves. These epitomes are, in fact, the skeleton of a complete history of Hurley, which this modest volume in no way pretends to be. The sinews, skin, and flesh, remain as yet to a great extent to be put on. The witnesses' names are a study in themselves. The local names of Marlow and Henley, Waltham, Knowl Hill, Bisham, Medmenham, Elynton [Maidenhuth, now Maidenhead] etc., etc.; parish lands and woods—such as the Severn, High Wood, Broad oak Field, Hurley Mill, Mill Lane, Great Dean's Field, find place in mediæval days; the fishing rights of Medmenham; the rowdyism of William Norreys, of Winkfield, when, with sixty others, he broke in upon the Prior's close in Hurley, destroyed his

corn, and blackguarded him with threats (No. 532), are found amongst these records of bygone Hurley.

The monastery, and houses belonging to it in the village, used to suffer much from Thames floods. As I have said already, the ground to the north of the church had been artificially raised before the foundations of the Priory were laid.

In a Close Roll (9 Hen. III, m.10 *dorse*) for 1225, a suit between the Prior of Hurley and the Master and Brethren of the Knights Templar, is reported, in respect of a certain obstruction in the Thames which the Templars had raised at Bisham, Temple Mills, "to the hurt" of the inhabitants of Hurley village ("de stagno quodam levato"). This dam occasioned bad floods in Hurley, by driving back the water on to the fields. At this moment the "gear" at Temple is powerless to carry off the great body of water which comes down to it from Newlock in flood time. In the winter of 1390-91, the floods were so high that houses in the village were laid in ruins, their occupants were drowned, and an appeal was made, by our monks, to Richard II for aid in behalf of Hurley "quia dictus locus in multis aggravatur, videlicet de inundatione fluminis Thamesis, de domibus ruinosis, de morte tenentium, de onere hospitalitatis suæ".¹ We have opportunity from time to time nowadays for sympathising, in this respect, with our monks of old. We shall not easily forget the floods of November, 1894. In 1489 the walls of the Priory were in dilapidation on account of floods. The floods, together with other drawbacks, had impoverished the monks. They were helped this time by a grant of £60, made in their favour by Richard Lessy; and in return for his kindness the Priory accorded him an "anniversary" for the rest of his life, and after his death as well. At the same time (No. 540) they

¹ v. p. 13.

agreed to pray for the good estate of Princess Cicely ("the Rose of Raby"), wife of the Duke of York. She was the mother of Edward IV and Richard III. Our monks undertook, in the same deed, to observe evermore the vigil of the anniversary of Jacob Cawode, Agatha his wife, and other relations of Richard Lessy. Our Priory was allied to the cause of the "White Rose" of York in the Plantagenet wars.

The following brief *résumé*, although involving repetition, shows what became of Hurley Priory and manor when it was confiscated by the Crown, as already stated. It was by a deed enrolled on June 1st, 28 Hen. VIII [1536], that Westminster Abbey conveyed Covent Garden and some other land to the King, in exchange for Hurley Great Wood. This we learn from the *Statutes at Large* (vol. iii, p. 685).

On July 1st, 1536, the Abbot and Convent of Westminster executed a charter conveying lands in and near London to the King. These included the manors of Neyte and Todington, the manor of Hyede [Hyde Park], two acres in Charynge Crosse fields, "The Lamb" in King Street, Westminster, an annual rent from the "Swan" Inn at Charyng cross, an annual rent from lands of the Abbot of Abington "in Charyngcrosse feld, rent from Chelseth manor, three closes in Est Grenewyche [East Greenwich]", and much more. In consideration for which, on July 3rd (1536), the King granted by charter to the Abbey (No. 562) the site of Hurley Priory and all the houses, etc., round it, as well as Esthamstead, the rectories and advowsons and patronages of Hurley, Waltham St. Laurence and Streatley, and a messuage at Kingham [Oxfordshire].

On January 16, 1539-40, Westminster Abbey itself was surrendered to the King. That the suppression of the monasteries was an unmixed good or an unmixed evil, I am not going to say. There were great abuses in some

cases. But I am confident that when the greedy King swept away the monastic system in this country, he destroyed an institution which had done more good for the civilization of England than any other that has ever been attempted. The system of St. Benedict was upreared on principles which, however ascetic, were based on a sense of Christianity such as the world has never seen elsewhere ; and I am confident that whatever good there exists amongst us has been largely fostered by a condition of events which was systematized, under God, wholly and entirely by the monastic Orders. The system itself has long ago evaporated from the English Church, but the results of it are with us still, although we may not recognise their origin.

The cells attached to Westminster Abbey were Hurley, Great Malvern, St. Bartholomew's at Sudbury, and the nunnery of Kilborne. St. Alban's Abbey had at least twice the number.¹

¹ Widmore's *Hist. of Westminster Abbey*, p. 34.

Hurley Seals.

PLATE A.



No. 1.



No. 2.



No. 3.

CHAPTER III.

HURLEY SEALS.

SEALS have always been regarded as of the highest legal importance. In the East no document is considered binding unless it is duly sealed. In ancient times the seal placed upon a document consisted of a lump of clay fastened on by strings. I noticed lately whilst examining the Westminster series of Hurley Charters that on one of them dating from the reign of Henry II the seal is made on four lengths of knotted whipcord, which is lashed into the foot of the parchment.

Mr. Haydn, in his *Dictionary of Dates*, says :—"Seals were not much in use with the Saxons ; but they signed parchments with the cross, impressions of lead being affixed. Sealing of deeds and writs was practised in England A.D. 1048. Until William I's time, the name was written, adding the sign of the cross."

When the Foundation Charter of Hurley Monastery (No. 1) was executed, it was neither signed nor dated. Geoffrey de Mandeville simply sealed the three copies of the Instrument with a seal composed of wax and earth. The seal (Plate A—1) on the (Hurley) original is now of a dark chestnut brown, and is attached to the foot of the parchment by a tag of vellum. The impression upon it is that of a knight in armour, the head surmounted by a coif of steel, a banner in the right hand and a shield on the left arm. A portion of the founder's name is still legible on it. This seal is covered with a bag of silk taffeta, *terra cotta* groundwork picked out with peacock blue and gold.

The diameter of the seal is just under three inches, while the bag is four inches in length and three inches and a half in its broadest part. Considering that both the seal and charter have been in existence for 812 years, they are wonderfully well preserved, although the edges of the seal are somewhat chipped. Date, *c.* 1086-1087.

I have had twenty-six casts taken from the seals which are still attached to the Westminster Collection of Hurley Charters and Deeds.

The next in date to that last described is the seal attached to a charter of Geoffrey de Mandeville, first Earl of Essex (No. 6). This has been broken, but is mended. A few letters of the inscription remain. The subject is a knight on horseback. It dates from before 1141.

Next in order comes a fine seal, somewhat larger than the first two—a knight on horseback, with coif of steel on head, a broad sword uplifted to strike in the right hand, and a long pointed shield on the left arm. This is the (mended) seal of William de Mandeville, third Earl of Essex [1169-1189], great-grandson of our founder. It was originally of white wax, but is now dull brown in colour, attached to a confirmation of his grandfather's charter (No. 20)—that is to say, the gift of a wood in Hurley and one in Little Waltham (St. Laurence), to Hurley Church.

As Earl William died childless, his property reverted to his aunt, Beatrice, and she in turn also confirmed the gift (No. 31). The seal, of green wax, has the inscription

SIGILLUM BEATRIX DE MANDAVILLE

still beautifully clear upon it. It is a full-length figure of a lady, two inches and three-quarters in length. Thus, we notice that although she had been twice married, Beatrice de Mandeville seals her charter in her maiden name. This would be not unusual under the circumstances. Her nephew, William, whose charter she confirms, died in

Hurley Priory Seals.

PLATE I.



CIV-39.



CIV-40.



CIV-37.



CIV-38.



CX-30.

(The Nos. are those entered in the British Museum.)

November 1189 ; and we may conclude that she sealed her charter soon after his death. She was then an old lady. Date *c.* 1189.

Next, in order, come four seals of Hurley Priory itself. I have, in all, twelve casts of Priory seals, three of which are in duplicate. They are separately numbered at the British Museum. These casts were made in 1894 and 1895 from *matrices* taken from the original impressions at Westminster. I give the numbers of the British Museum to each, in turn, as I quote them.

No. CIV—36. This seal is much worn. It is a common seal of the Priory, but does not appear on the plates. The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin is the subject. The shape is oval, length two inches and a half. The figures are an inch and a half in height, in a standing position. The Divine Message is received by the Blessed Virgin with her right hand slightly raised, in well expressed surprise, whilst the Archangel has his right hand advanced in index attitude. The Holy Spirit in the form of a Dove hovers overhead. When Madox examined the original wax of this seal, in 1702, the following inscription was plain enough :

SIGILLVM ECCLIE SCE DEI GENETRICIS DE
HERLEIE

but unfortunately, during the last hundred and ninety-six years, nearly all the traces of the inscription have been lost. This seal is attached to a short charter of Ralph de Papilion, commonly known as Ralph de Arundel, who was Prior of Hurley at the end of the twelfth century, and was created Abbot of Westminster on November 30, 1220, in succession to William Postard, who had died on May 4th in the same year. After thirteen years, he was deprived of his Abbacy and retired into private life on the manors of Sunbury and Toddington, allotted for his support. He died

in 1223, and is buried somewhere in the nave of Westminster Abbey. He is the first Abbot of whom mention is made as being buried within the precincts of the Abbey Church itself. Whilst Prior of Hurley he charged the Church at Easthampstead (in the charter to which Seal CIV—36 is appended), with four shillings (solidos) a year, to be sent to the Secretary of Hurley Priory, in order that the sacristans of St. Mary's Church might have sufficient to supply "honorifice et plenarie" wax tapers to burn at the Mass of St. Mary of Hurley, which he had appointed to be sung; and he concludes his grant by adjuring all succeeding priors, "by the tremendous judgment of God, and by His Almighty Power" not to infringe upon his gift, nor to allow any one else to infringe upon it,—“in order that God may increase and stablish their days and their life in everlasting happiness, and that they may have a share with Christ in the Heavenly Rest.” Seals Nos. CIV—37, and CIV—38 (Plate I), as well as Seal No. CIV—36 (all three of a yellowish brown colour), are affixed to this "Tapers" Charter. Date, before November 30, 1200 (No. 27).

No. CIV—39 is another and a more perfect sample of No. CIV—36. The reason why this specimen is selected for illustration (Plate I) is because the impression is in better preservation than the other. It is appended to another charter of Prior Ralph de Arundel, and is in dark green wax. This last-named charter contains a grant of land at Little Waltham (Waltham St. Laurence) by the Prior and Convent of Hurley to Osbert, son of Robert. Date, before November 30, 1200 (No. 28).

No. CIV—40 is the counterseal of No. CIV—39. It is a most beautiful adaptation from an Eastern gem, possibly a ring (Plate I). A deity seated, opposite to whom is a votary—the right hand of each being extended upwards and holding a rather large cup. Our Prior adopted this

votive offering as the counterseal of his convent, and consecrated the cup, so to speak, into a Christian chalice by making this heathenish device to symbolize the Communion of the Faithful—"Do this (*i.e.*, 'offer this') in Remembrance of Me". This intention is brought out clearly by the inscription round the seal, the greater part of which still remains. The Septuagint translation of David's Psalm cxv—13 from the original Hebrew is: *Ποτήριον σωτηρίου λήψομαι*, "I will receive the Cup of Salvation", Ps. cxvi—12 in Book of Common Prayer. This is rendered in the Vulgate (Ps. cxv—Sarum use): "Calicem salutaris accipiam." These words occur in the Canon of the Mass.

CALICEM SALVTAR

is still clear on the edge of the seal. Our Prior, when he adopted this seal, must have had in his mind those caustic words of St. Paul to the Corinthians: "Ye cannot drink of the cup of the Lord and the cup of devils: Ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table and of the table of devils" (1 Cor. x, 21). Date, before November 30, 1200 (No. 28).

No. CIV—37. This pretty little seal (Plate I) is of great interest. The veil on the head of the Blessed Virgin is beautiful.

VE MARIA GRA PLEN

is all of the inner part of the inscription still remaining. In an outer circle, the letters ARVN, as well as an A before it, are plain. As already mentioned, this seal is on the "Tapers" Charter. Date, before November 30, 1200 (No. 27).

No. CIV—38. This is a counterseal of No. CIV—37 (Plate I), likewise on the "Tapers" Charter. It is lumpy and much worn.

ECCE VICIT LEO DE TRIBV JUDA

was upon it, Madox tells us, in 1702. Date, before November 30, 1200 (No. 27).

The next set of seals, taken in chronological order, is a group of four, belonging to Geoffrey Fitz Piers, who married Beatrice, grand-daughter of the Beatrice de Mandeville whose seal I have already described. After the death of William, third Earl of Essex, Fitz Piers, as we have seen, purchased the earldom from Richard I for 3,000 marks, in 1199, and he lived to enjoy his honours until 1213; so that we shall not go far wrong in chronicling his seals in this sequence of order. There is nothing very striking about any of them. The obverse of the two first is of green wax, and as usual consists of a knight accoutred for military service; but unhappily there is little more remaining than his legs on horseback. The seal is made of green wax. Several letters of

PETRI COMITIS

remain round the edge. The counterseal, which is the favourite angemma of the French heralds—a rose of six foils—is very pretty. The inscription around the angemma is:

✠ SECRETV GALFRIDI FIL PETRI

(No. 39.)

The other pair are quite different. The obverse is a lion, with rampant tail, in the act of trampling on a meaner animal which looks like a fawn (No. 32). On the reverse is the angemma once more. This counterseal is not, however, from the same *matrix* as the first-named counterseal, being decidedly the smaller of the two. The inscription is illegible. The seals are light brown in colour.

The four seals last named are attached to charters in confirmation of grants made to Hurley Priory in the form of land at Hurley and Little Waltham (Waltham St. Laurence), which William de Mandeville, third Earl of Essex, had secured to the Priory. *Temp.* John.

I have traced the devolution of the Essex title, as recreated in 1199 by Richard I, down to the earlier half of the fifteenth century. After descending for several generations through Maud, daughter of Geoffrey Fitz Piers, who married Henry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, male issue failed in the person of Humphrey, the seventh Earl; and so the title passed, once again through the female line, to the issue of one of his daughters, Eleanor. She married Thomas, Duke of Gloucester, uncle of Henry IV, and had, with other issue, a daughter Anne, who married, as her third husband, the Earl of Ewe, by whom she became the mother of Henry, Earl of Ewe and Essex, born subsequently to 1403.

Two beautiful Salisbury seals (Plate A-2, 3) next engage our notice. Herbert Poor, the last but one of the seven Bishops of Old Sarum [1194-1217], had granted (No. 30) to our Priory "all tithes of sheaves at Waltham [St. Laurence] and the oblations made on St. Laurence's Day [August 10th], to be applied to the offices of the sacristy" of Hurley Church, etc. This charter is well worth studying. Notice the reference in it to Warfield, as well as to Waltham St. Laurence. This deed of grant by Herbert was confirmed by Richard, his successor in the Salisbury bishopric.

Bishop Richard Poor laid the foundation stone of the present Salisbury Cathedral on April 28th, 1220; and on October 17th of that same year he confirmed the gift of Bishop Herbert to our Priory by Deed of Grant (No. 46). To this deed he attached his seal and counterseal. On the obverse is a fine impression of the bishop, robed and mitred, holding pastoral staff, with the inscription (nearly all of which is plain):

✠ RICARDVS : DVII : GRACIA : SARESBERIENSIS :
EPISCOPVS

The counterseal, much smaller, represents the Annuncia-

tion of the Blessed Virgin, with the inscription, quite perfect,

✠ AVE MARIA GRACIA PLENA DOMINVS TECVM.

Dated, Amesbury, xvi kal. Nov., "anno pontificatus nostri quarto" (No. 46).

It is interesting to notice that in the year 1215, Herbert Poor made a present to Walden Abbey, which afterwards was connected with an interesting chapter in Hurley's history. In that year he gave the great tithes of Streatley, in Berkshire, to Walden. Both Streatley and Walden had been made over by the Conqueror to Geoffrey de Mandeville, in, or soon after, 1066. The reason for mentioning this circumstance is because of a dispute between the Abbot of Walden and the Prior of Hurley which arose in after years, and in which these Streatley great tithes eventually formed the basis of a mutual agreement between these two religious houses. The Abbot of Walden chafed at the idea of the enforcement of tithes by Hurley, from certain parishes in Essex and Hertfordshire. It will be remembered that in his foundation charter, Geoffrey had charged his manors in all parts of the country with tithes of some sort in favour of Hurley Priory, and this formed the nucleus of a very pretty little Hurley and Walden quarrel. The following extract is taken from the covenant of agreement between the disputants. This was duly executed by the commissioners of the two houses, who signed in alternate order, in 1258:—

"To all the faithful in Christ who shall see or hear of this present charter, Geoffrey, Prior of Hurley, and the convent of the same place greeting in the Lord. Giving due weight to the possibility that matter for dispute may arise in affairs ecclesiastical, and being anxious to make provision for the peace and tranquillity of ourselves and our successors on the one hand, and my Lord Absalom by the

grace of God Abbot of Walden, and the convent of the same place on the other hand. We have given and conceded by way of exchange to the aforesaid Abbot and convent all tithes alike great or small in geese, lambs, calves, chickens, horses, sucking pigs, small birds, etc., that is to say, from Walden with Wigborough, Great Waltham, Pleshey, High Easter, Thorley, Enfield, and Great Mimms; and in consideration for this the said abbot and convent have given and granted by way of exchange the church of Streatley which they have had for their own use, etc." As a part of the agreement, moreover, the patronage of Streatley was conveyed to our Priory; and the covenant concludes with certain provisions concerning the payment of taxes on the Streatley tithes, in which occur the following interesting words: "quotienscunque tallagium vel aliud onus extraordinarium ecclesiæ Anglicanæ fuerit impositionem", etc. (Walden Register, A.D. 1387, *Harleian MS.*, No. 3697.)

No. CX—13. This is a common seal of Hurley Convent, used by Prior Adam when granting a messuage in Hurley and another messuage in La Westrethe, to John Le Coupere (No. 109). It is not on the plates, because another impression of the same seal is represented on Plate II. The seal is broken. Date Edw. I [1286-1299].

Next in order come a pair of very large Westminster Abbey seals (Plate B-4, 5). They are affixed to an *Inspeximus* and Confirmation by Walter de Wenlok, Abbot of Westminster [1283-1307], treasurer to Queen Eleanor, of an assignment made by Richard de Waldene, Prior of Hurley, etc., towards the clothing of fifteen monks at Hurley from annual rent due from Walden Abbey and from the brethren of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, in London; also tithes of sheaves of Robert of Waltham, and an annual rent from the fuller's mill of Hurley, etc. On the obverse:

St. Peter seated on a carved throne, his feet resting on a supine human figure, with an engrailed nimbus, mitre and pall, vestments partly embroidered, and with interlaced ring work ; in the right hand a crozier, in the left hand two keys. On the reverse : King Edward the Confessor seated on a carved throne, his feet resting on a supine human figure, with the head to the right ; embroidered robes. In the right hand is a sceptre fleury, in the left a model of Westminster Abbey : in the field, on the left a large rose between three pierced roses and other small flowers ; on the right an ornament of foliage, with rays, between three pierced roses and other small flowers. The inscription round the reverse of the seal is

✠ DIMIDIA : PARS : SIGILL : ECCLESIE : SANCTI :
PETRI : WESTMONASTERII.

The inscription round the obverse of this seal is clearly identical with that round the reverse, but it is much rubbed. These are, by far, the most beautiful in my collection. I have also the counterseal (No. CX—30) of the Common Seal of Hurley Priory, both of which occur on this Inspeximus and Confirmation Deed (Plate I). The greater portion of the word **HVRLEYE** remains on it ; it represents a tonsured figure holding two keys. The features are remarkably expressive and well defined, and also the tonsure itself. Date of assignment by Hurley Priory, Feb. 3rd, 1300 ; of the Westminster confirmation, Wednesday before the Feast of the Annunciation, 1300 (No. 123).

No. CIV—41. Hurley Priory Common Seal (Plate II). This is another impression of No. CX—13. It is in perfect preservation, and is singularly handsome. The legend runs thus :

✠ SI COMMUNE CAPITULI PRIORAT' HVRLEY.

The Prior, in a kneeling position, appears in the lower

Hurley Priory Seals.

PLATE II.



CIV-41.



CIV-42.



CIV-43.



CX-15.

(The Nos. are those entered in the British Museum.)

part of the seal, holding his pastoral staff. On his dexter side is an estoile of six points, and on the sinister side is an angemma. This seal is attached to a grant by Frater Ricardus de Waldene, Prior, and the Convent of Hurley, to Reginald de la Hale, and John, his son of an enclosure of land between La Cnolle [Knowl Hill] and Denesfeld, a portion of Bartlett's farm. The seal is of yellow wax. Dated, Friday before F. of Nat. of B. V. Mary [8th September], 31 Edw. I [1303]. (No. 130.)

The next in order is a very small but beautiful seal attached to a grant by John de Quercu, perpetual Vicar of Hurley, to Reginald Fullo, of Hurley, and Margery his wife, of a tenement, with rent of eightpence to the Prior of Hurley, and a clove of gillyflower to the said John. The Vicar is represented robed, and standing at the altar of Hurley Church, with a large chalice in his hand which he is about to consecrate. *Temp.* Edw. I [1272-1307]. (No. 191.) The inscription runs :

S IOHIS VICARII D' HVRLE

Then follows a seal of arms, vair, within a bordure which is studded with eleven pierced mullets. The seal is attached to a Power of Attorney from Adam de Share-shull to John [de Tothale], Prior, and the Convent of Hurley. Dated, October 15, 19 Edw. III [1345]. (No. 402.)

No. CX—14. Another example of the Common Priory Seal. The same as No. CIV—41. It is broken. This seal is on a bond by William [de Bromle], Prior, and the Convent of Hurley, to Mag. Richard de Warmynton and William Niweman. Date, February 13, 43 Edw. III [1369]. (No. 461.)

No. CIV—42. The seal of Prior William Bromle (Plate II) is broken. The Prior is adoring a saint in a niche. The inscription is :

SIGILL' FRIS [W]ILLI' BROML' PORIS.

This is the special seal of the Prior. It is attached to an assignment by himself, with the consent of the Convent, towards the clothing and support of the monks at Hurley, of the annual rent of twenty solidi issuing from rent at Easthampstead, to be received by the cellarer, or "dispensator forinsecus", of the Priory, and paid over yearly to the chamberlain. Date, before November 29, 1386 (No. 506).

No. CIV—43. This is the special seal of William of Ipswich (Plate II). The Blessed Virgin Mary and the Holy Child are in a niche. The inscription runs :

SIGIL' FRIS WILLI ZEPV . . . WIK PRIORIS.

The seal is attached to a lease by Frater William Zepuswyth, Prior of Hurley, to Isabel, relict of Thomas Chapman, of Ergaston [East Garston], co. Berks. Date, Vig. of SS. Philip and James, 1 Hen. IV [1400]. (No. 511.)

No. CX—15. The most modern cast in my collection of Hurley Seals is broken. This is particularly unfortunate, as it is an extremely chaste specimen of Perpendicular niche work. It is a common seal of the Priory (Plate II). On the dexter side, close to the edge, a specimen of the Norman zig-zag on the doorway arches of St. Mary's, Hurley, is introduced with taste ; and, on both sides, the Decorated window in the chancel is brought into the field of the seal. The convent was evidently as proud of the old work in the church as we are nowadays. This seal is attached to a grant by John Noreys, gent., of Wynkefeld, to John Hilston, Prior, and the Convent of Hurley, of an acre in "*Le Hechyn ad finem ville de Hurle*", in exchange for a small garden in Hurley and an acre of arable land in the Estfeld, which was enclosed in Temple Park in 1876. Date, 16 September, 13 Hen. VII [1497]. (No. 549.)

It will be noticed that during the period of four hundred and fifty years represented by the Westminster series of Hurley Charters and Deeds, I have referred to specimens

of three distinct common seals of the Priory—the subject of each being the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The first of these three occurs on the Ralph de Arundel charters, that is up to November 30, 1200; a specimen of the second common seal occurs in the reign of Edward I [1286-1299]; and, once again in the same reign, in 1303; it was also used by the convent in 1369 (43 Edward III). More than this I cannot say. The only date at which we know that the third common seal of the Priory was in use is September 16, 1497, *i.e.*, rather more than thirty-eight years and nine months before the Priory was suppressed. When, at the time of their dissolution as a confraternity, our unfortunate monks conveyed all their moveable goods and chattels to Westminster, for custody by the Mother Church, it is fortunate that the great Tudor confiscator did not happen to meet them on their way to the Abbey. If he had, most of this splendid collection of Charters and Deeds would not have come into the hands of the Dean and Chapter at Westminster at all, and many of them would in all probability have been long ago destroyed.

CHAPTER IV.

PRIORS AND VICARS OF HURLEY.

“So age by age, and year by year,
His grace was handed on.”—HYMN.

DURING the examination of the originals of “Hurley Charters and Deeds” lately placed at my disposal, no fewer than twenty-nine Priors of Hurley between 1140 and 1510 have been catalogued. In addition to these, the *Annals of Dunstable* furnish us with another name, in succession to Richard le Gras, who became Abbot of Evesham from Hurley in 1236, namely, that of Sanson de Eswelle (see List of Priors). Matthew Paris tells us that Richard le Gras, here referred to, headed the embassy which negotiated the marriage of Henry III with Eleanor, daughter of the Count of Provence, solemnized on January 14th, 1236.

My List of Vicars of Hurley extends from the reign of Edward I [1272-1307] to the date of my own institution on February 5th, 1868, and is apparently nearly complete.

Some confusion exists in the earlier entries, but under the circumstances they were wonderfully good. In explanation, it must be borne in mind in the first place that in mediæval days there were two sorts of Vicars. Each of them was representative of the Abbot and Prior. He was deputed to represent his superior in the choir or at the altar. He was either a “vicarius perpetuus” (see “Hurley Charters and Deeds”), duly instituted by the Diocesan, or else he was a “locum tenens” of the Abbot without any secured permanence in office. Irregularities of ecclesiastical supervision were in those days inevitable.

The dioceses were very large, and means of communication were sparse. At first, appropriations were made to *sole corporations*, spiritual, Abbots, Priors, etc., who could perform the holy rites in person, but afterwards they were extended to *Corporations aggregate*—a whole monastery—whose duties were discharged by a substituted Vicar. In short, the Vicars were fleeced. Low salaries—much lower than the Bishop would sanction—were offered to and accepted by menials who were perhaps never presented to the Bishop for canonical institution. The title of “perpetual Vicar” was given to those priests who were episcopally recognised, in distinction to the stop-gaps who were nominated by the head of the house and then discharged at his will. A benefice often remained void for years. The Diocesan Register would of course record the names of those who were canonically appointed by the Bishop, and no others. Possibly, for instance, William le Mercer, in 1331, a tradesman both by title and profession, was identical with William de Witteneye. Witteneye [Witney] was, not unlikely, the place of his birth. Alternative names were not uncommon as late as the sixteenth century, or later. John Hampslep [1365] may have been identical with John Athelard; or else, the terrible scourge of the Black Death in 1361-62 may have been severe in the Salisbury diocese, and Bishop Wyville may have instituted him as the only man that he could find. The most illiterate were frequently ordained, and, as a result, substitute-Vicars (of the second order) were perforce found necessary. Incumbents of parishes succeeded each other with great rapidity whilst the pestilence raged. Cricklade St. Sampson, in our former diocese of Salisbury, had four Vicars in little more than a year, owing to the terrible ravages which were caused by this Black Death in 1348-49.

William de Cornwall, who succeeded Willi. Hebbotastel

on April 15th, 1351, became Vicar of Hurley "per liberam dimissionem"; that is, "by the free resignation" of William Hebbotastel. I desire it to be understood that I have thought it best to print the exact modes of spelling, and in fact to give a *verbatim facsimile* of the extracts, as sent to me from the Salisbury Registry, which refer to Vicars.

A LIST OF HURLEY PRIORS.

The following list is taken almost entirely from *Hurley Charters and Deeds*, between 1140 and 1510.

The names within brackets probably refer to the same individual.

DIOCESE OF SALISBURY, PARISH OF HURLEY.

Priors of the Benedictine Convent.

REIGN OF

Æric (<i>ante</i> December 31, 1140)	. Stephen.
William . . . . .	. Henry II.
John de Rocella . . . . .	. Henry II.
Ralph (Papyllion) de Arundel . . . . .	. <i>Ante</i> Nov. 30, 1200.
became Abbot of Westminster on November 30th, 1200.	
William . . . . .	. Henry III.
Richard le Gras [Crassus] . . . . .	. Henry III.
became Abbot of Evesham in 1236.	
Sanson de Eswelle . . . . .	. Henry III.
William de Stanford . . . . .	. Henry III.
Theobald . . . . .	. Henry III, Edward I?
John de Lyra . . . . .	. Henry III, Edward I?
Walter de London . . . . .	. Edward I.
Adam . . . . .	. Edward I.
Richard de Waleden . . . . .	. Edward I.
Geoffrey . . . . .	. Edward I.
Alexander de Neuport . . . . .	. Edward I, Edward II.
[William Seger . . . . .	. Late thirteenth century.]
Henry . . . . .	. Edward II.
Richard de Coleworthe . . . . .	. Edward II, Edward III.
John de Tothale . . . . .	. Edward III.

REIGN OF

Thomas de Cumbrok . . .	Edward II, Edward III.
William de Bromle . . .	Edward III, Richard II.
William Zepuswyche, <i>alias</i> Gep- peswych.	Richard II, Henry IV.
John Feryng . . .	Henry IV, Henry V.
William Pulburgh . . .	Henry V.
{ John Saffrey . . . }	Henry V, Henry VI.
{ John Sauerey . . . }	
Edward Downe . . .	Edward IV.
Thomas Ruston, <i>alias</i> Russheton	Edward IV.
John Hilston . . .	Henry VII.
John Hampton . . .	Henry VII.
William Grawnt [1510] ¹ . . .	Henry VII, Henry VIII.

¹ Latest date known.

The following is a List of Institutions to the Vicarage of Hurley *from the reign of Henry III to the present time*. The earliest register in the Salisbury Registry dates from the episcopacy of Simon de Gandavo [Ghent], who was consecrated Bishop of Salisbury in October 1297; and it is mainly from the Salisbury Registry that I have secured the names. Some few, however, are taken from *Hurley Charters and Deeds*, or from documents in my custody at Hurley.

A LIST OF VICARS OF HURLEY FROM HENRY III'S
REIGN TO THE PRESENT TIME.

Date.	Patron.	Vicar.
[<i>Temp.</i> Henry III . . .	No Patron mentioned . . .	Richard.]
14 Kalends, April, 1304.	Charge of Vicarage given to Adam de Schirelome by the Bishop, owing to impotency of the Vicar (not named).	
8th February, 1304 . . .	Religious men,—Prior and Convent of Hurley.	Adam de Schirelom.
[<i>Temp.</i> Edward I . . .	No Patron mentioned . . .	John.]

Date.	Patron.	Vicar.
[<i>Temp.</i> Edward I .	No Patron mentioned .	John de Quercu.]
8th Kalends, October, 1310.	Abbot and Convent of Hurley.	Willm de Wytteneye.
1331 . . .	No Patron mentioned .	Willam le Mercer.
17th Kalends, August, 1335.	No Patron mentioned .	Waltru de Helmeden, per resig : Willi de Wytteneye.
Id. May, 1342 .	Prior and Convent of Hurley.	Adam de Wytteneye, per exchange with Waltru de Helmeden.
8th April, 1349 .	Prior and Convent of Hurley.	Willus de Woketon.
15th April, 1351 .	Prior and Convent of Hurley.	Willus de Cornwall, per liberam dimissionem Willi Hebbotastel.
22nd February, 1362 .	Bishop instituted upon report of vacancy. No Patron mentioned.	Johes Athelard, per mort, Willi Cornwaille.
1365 . . .	No Patron mentioned .	John Hampslape.
1372 . . .	No Patron mentioned .	John Adelhard.
12th October, 1376 .	Prior and Convent of Hurley.	Johannes Grene, per exchange with Johannes Athelard.
7th July, 1400 .	Prior and Convent of Hurley.	Godefrus Petyt, per resignation Johie Grene.
7th December, 1440 .	Bishop of Salisbury .	John Whatebrede, alias Helmesley, per mort : Galfridi Petyte.
15th April, 1453 .	Religious men, Prior and Convent of Hurley.	Edmundus Spencer, per resig : Nichi Pardon.
21st August, 1459 .	Religious men, Prior and Convent of Hurley.	Johannes Page, per mort : Edmundi Spencer.
7th March, 1458 ^o .	Prior and Convent of Hurley.	Galfridus Spergore, per resig : Johannis Page.

Date.	Patron.	Vicar.
20th August, 1488 .	Religious men, Prior and Conventual Monastery of Blessed Mary of Hurley.	Walteru Dudston.
24th September, 1503	No Patron mentioned .	Edmnd Aliard, per mort : Walteri Dud.
9th November, 1505 .	No Patron mentioned .	Ric. Webster, per resig : Edmdei Aleard.
14th April, 1507 .	No Patron mentioned .	Thomas Graunt, ¹ per mort : Ric. Webster.
10th October, 1541 .	Carolus Haward, (<i>sic.</i>) Armiger	Jacobus Holys, ² per mort : Thome Graunte.
(Died) 1558 .	Patron unknown .	Willm Rooke. ³
February 156 $\frac{2}{3}$.	The Queen (Elizabeth) .	Radulphus Marler, per mort : last Incumbent.
17th October, 1565 .	Richardus Lovelace, Generosus.	Thomas Hudchmought, per resig : Radulphi Marlerie.

¹ T. Graunt's Will is dated August 19, 1541. In it he bequeaths his soul "vnto all myrthy God my maker and Redemr my body to Crystean buryall wthin the church of Hurley aforesaid. Itm y bequeth vnto the mother church of Sar xij^d. Also to my successor the next vicar of Hurley xij^d. . . . Also I wyll that Syr Wyllm Roke do syng and say masses and p^aye for my Solle my frynds Solles and all Xssen Sollis an hole yere in the Church of Hurley aforesaid and the seid Sir Wyllm to haue therfo^r of myne execut^r vj^{li} stling. Also I geue vnto Nichol Sicks xls and a gowne" etc.

² James Holles made his will on June 22, 1552. In it he left "to my cosin Elyne Baten my best gowne. Also to my cosen Richard Holles my chamlet jacket and my chamlet doblet and half a todd of wool. Itm to Margery Whithurst my bed with all that pteynith thereto and my blak cloke. Itm to S^r Willm Rok my best cloke. Itm to Richard Lovelace my colte. Itm to the vicar of Great Marlay my velvet night capp and to the vicar of Bishm my best capp. Itm to Thoms Crastone my fustiā doblet. Itm to his wife my platters and disshes wth the burde in the parler and my felt hatt," etc.

³ William Rooke made his will on September 1, 1558. He says: "I bequeth mie soll to Almightye god o^r Ladie Sainte Marie and all the companie of Heaven and mie bodie to be buried in the church porch of Hurley aforesaid. Itm I give to the mother church of Sarū iijj^d. Itm I giue to the vicar o^r greate Marlowe and to the vicar of Bissham mie beste gowne," etc.

Date.	Patron.	Vicar.
20th March, 1567 .	Richardus Lovelace, Generosus.	Johannes Dobbes, per cess : Thomas Hutch- mought.
9th October, 1568 .	Richardus Lovelace, Armiger.	Petrus Russell, per mort : Johis Dobbes.
26th November, 1570	Richardus Lovelace, Armiger.	Johes Butler, per resig : Petri Russell.
20th January, 1580 .	Richardus Lovelace, Armiger.	Thomas Maxwell.
7th March, 1594 .	Richardus Lovelace, Armiger.	Henricus Lovelace, per mort : Thomæ Maxwell.
9th August, 1614 .	Richardus Lovelace, Miles.	Nathaniele Cannon, per resig : Henrici Lovelace.
23rd March, 1664 .	Johes Lovelace, Baron of Hurley.	Ricus. Brogden, per mort : Nathlis Cannon.
1st March, 1675 .	Hon. Johannes Lovelace .	Samuel Rich.
3rd September, 1678 .	John Lord Lovelace, Baron of Hurley.	Thomas Mason, per de- privation of Samlis Rich.
23rd November, 1683	John Lovelace, Baron of Hurley.	Daniel Ayshford, per cess : Thomæ Mason.
20th August, 1723 .	Roberti Gayer, of Stoke Podges, Bucks.	Jacobum Smith, per mort : Daniel Ashford.
Feb. 6th, 1782 .	Most Noble George, Duke and Earl of Marlborough.	Alban Thomas, per mort : James Smith.
Sep. 8th, 1789 .	George, Duke of Marl- borough.	William Mavor, per mort : Alban Thomas.
July 14th, 1838 .	Honourable Henry Walker.	Florence James Wethered, per mort : William Mavor.
Feb. 5th, 1868 .	Rev. Florence Thomas Wethered.	Florence Thomas Weth- ered (the present Vicar), per mort : Florence James Wethered.

CHAPTER V.
CHARTERS AND DEEDS
RELATING TO THE
PARISH OF HURLEY.

“Owners and occupants of earlier dates
From graves forgotten stretch their dusty hands,
And hold in mortmain still their old estates.”—LONGFELLOW.

[It has been very difficult to arrange the order of these epitomes for publication. I have placed those to which no particular year can be assigned at the *end* of the reign to which they seem to belong. On comparing the list of Hurley Priors (pp. 84, 85) with the epitomes, some confusion occasionally appears, but the list of Priors itself sets straight the Priors' chronological order.]

1. FOUNDATION Charter of Hurley Priory, wherein Gosfridus de Magnavilla grants to it the church of Hurley, the whole vill of Hurley, and the surrounding wood, all his demesne including the church of Waltam, the soke of the chapel of Remenham, fishery in the Isle of Ely, and in the vill of Mose, etc.

Turolde, his steward, also grants tithes in Ockendon and Bordesdon.

[*Circ.* 1086-7.]

With the Founder's seal. A knight mounted.

2. MANDATE from G[eo]ffrey¹ de Mandavilla to Ædric “prepositus suus”, and to all his men of Waltham, forbidding them to intermeddle with the water of the Prior and monks of Hurley, or to take anything from their wood “sine Prioris aut suorum documento”.

[*Circ.* 1087—early *temp.* Hen. I.]

¹ Geoffrey died early in the reign of Henry I; it is not known when exactly, so that this may be as late as that date, or soon after the foundation of the Priory.

For the full text of this Charter, *v.* Appendix.

3. MANDATE of Henry I, confirming to Hurley Priory all the lands and tenements "que tenent de feudo Gaufridi de Magnavilla", wherever they may be, "et insuper in maneriis que in mea manu sunt de honore ipsius Gaufridi de Magnavilla, ita bene et libere et quiete et plenarie sicut ipse Gaufridus melius et liberius et plenarius ea ecclesie sue de Hurnleia pro anima sua dedit in elemosina et concessit et carta sua confirmavit die qua fecit eam dedicare et sicut Rex Willelmus pater meus eis per cartam suam concedit et confirmat".

Test. : Rannulphus cancellarius per Otuelum filium Comitum, apud Turrim London.

[1106-1121.]

4. CONFIRMATION by Henry I of all the gifts, etc., which Gausfridus de Magnavill' made to the church of Hurley; made "pro mea et matris mee salute et Imperatricis filie mee petitione et anime sue redemptione."

Test. : "Eadem Imperatrice, et Rogero episcopo Sarum per Otuelum fil. comitis, apud Turrim London."

[*Circ.* 1114-1121.]

With seal of reddish-brown wax, enclosed in network of string.

5. LETTER from William,¹ constable of Chester, to Herebert, Abbot, and the convent of Westminster, as follows: "Hereberto, Abbati et conventui ecclesie Westmonasterii, Willelmus Constabularius Cestrie, salutem. Sciatis quod volo et concedo de me et heredibus meis ut elemosina patris mei et mea nominatim de Piriton [Pyrton, co. Oxon.], scilicet ii hide una scilicet in Piriton et altera in Claïora [Clare, co. Oxon] cum omnibus appendiciis suis in bosco et plano, pratis et pascuis et in omnibus sibi adjacentibus sint amodo in perpetuum in ecclesia de Herleia ad usum monachorum Herleia sicut illas eis dedistis, Et sicut pater meus pro salute sua et suorum illas concessit ea tamen conditione et nostri, si placet, reverencia ut nulli unquam amodo subjaceat laico, neque Roberto Cervisie

neque ulli alii ullo tempore sed sit ad usum Monachorum omni tempore in ecclesia sancte Marie de Herleia ad salutem et remedium animarum nostrarum. Valete."

[*Circ.* 1135-1140.]

¹ Probably William the Constable, *junior*, *ob. s. p.* Agnes was his sister and co-heiress. William the elder was alive in 1133.

6. GRANT by G[eoffrey]¹ de Magnavilla and Rocisa² his wife to the church of St. Mary of Hurleia, of "partem illius decime quam Willelmus capellanus eorum habere solebat de dominica curia monachorum eiusdem ecclesie, et quietam de se et heredibus suis finabiliter clamant et solutam, et ita ut quicunque aut clericus aut laicus elemosinam istam et concessionem quoquomodo infringere vel auferre vel diminuerre presumpserit, malediccioni perpetue subiaceat et excommunicationi et sit pars illorum et habitacio perpetua cum illis qui dixerunt Domino Deo, Recede a nobis, scientiam viarum tuarum nolumus."

Test.: Alured de Bennen', Humphrey de Rocchel', Rannulph fil. Arnulfi, Hamelinus camberarius, Ernaldus forestarius Regis, Richard de Ran', Gosfridus de Querrend', Alurph de Herl', Alured frater eius.

Temp. Stephen [*ante* 1141].

With seal, broken (now mended.)

¹ Grandson of G. de Mand. I, created first Earl of Essex by Stephen 1140, and by the Empress Matilda 1141. Killed at the battle of Burwell 1144; buried in the Temple Church, London.

² Daughter of Aubrey de Vere, created Chamberlain of England by Henry I [1133], and sister to Aubrey de Vere, Earl of Oxford.

7. CONFIRMATION by Gaufridus de Magnavill of "omnes donationes et possessiones quascunque Gaufridus avus meus pro salute anime sue et heredum suorum ecclesie sue de Herleia de proprio suo in elemosina contulit", viz., all that same vill of Herleia; and also "donationes quas in insula de Heli vel in villa que Mosa vocatur ecclesie sue in elemosina quiete et libere contulit", with tithes in Wochendona and in Bordesdena.

Test. : Æiric eiusdem ecclesie Prior; Alfr' de Benneville; Aalard, constabularius; Hunfr' de la Roccheli; Ern' de Magnav[illa] filius meus, Richard de Rane, Gaufridus de Querrendona, etc.

[*Ante* 1141.]

With loose pieces of seal in green and yellow tapestry bag.

Endorsed : "Carta primi Comitis Gaufridi¹ de confirmatione et concessione eius in Herleinsi ecclesia".

¹ Created first Earl of Essex by Stephen in 1140; by the Empress Matilda in 1141.

8. NOTIFICATION from G[coffrey] de Magnavilla to his Lord, Stephen, King of England, etc., that he has granted to Hurley Priory 100 *sh.* of his own rental, in exchange for all their tithe in Edelmetune, Ennefeldia and Mimms [Edmonton, Enfield and Mimms, co. Midd.], except tithe of pannage, etc.

Test. : Roesia, uxor eiusdem Gaufridi, Walter capellanus etc.

Temp. Stephen [*ante* 1141.]

For the full text of this Deed, *v.* Appendix.

9. GRANT by Arnulf¹ de Mandevilla to Hurley Priory in perpetual alms, of one hide of land in Chaingheham [Kingham, co. Oxon.], and this grant he makes "cum corpore meo" for the salvation of his father's soul, his own soul, and the soul of his wife, Domina Adeliza. Together with the confirmation of the same by Geoffrey de Mandevilla, the said Arnulf's heir.

Test. : Gaufridus, ipsius heres; Domina Adeliza uxor eiusdem Arnulfi; Arnulfus filius eius; Willelmus filius eius; Matilda de Port filia eius; Beatrix filia eius, Emma de Peri; Johannes de Matham, et Alanus de Matham, milites; Bartholomeus capellanus; Pastoralis, capellanus, etc.

Temp. Stephen.

¹ The disinherited eldest son of Geoffrey de Mandevilla, first Earl of Essex.

10. GRANT by Ralph¹ de Mandevilla to the church of St. Mary in Herleia [Hurley] of "unam hidam terre in Caingeham [Kingham, Co. Oxon], dimidiam hidam de dominio, et dimidiam de la Parland scilicet illam virgatam que fuit Turberti parvi, et aliam virgatam que fuit Rogeri Rufi, et iiij^{or} acras prati ii^{as} acras in Reffhame, et ii^{as} in Kerstanneshamme de meliore parte prati et una mansura in crofta de Brettesbergke . . cum corpore meo sicut pater meus ante me fecit."

Test.: Gilbert Morin, Walter de Wica, Roger de Wine-lade, Richard de Chessedene, etc.

Temp. Stephen. Seal missing.

¹ Geoffrey de Mandeville, second Earl of Essex, had granted a knight's fee in Kingham to his (disinherited) elder brother, Ernulf. Ernulf granted it to his son Ralph, who now grants land in Kingham to Hurley Priory.

11. GRANT by Gaufridus,¹ Comes de Æssexia, to the church of St. Mary of "Hurnleia," and the monks there, in perpetual alms, "terram quam Edricus Albus tenuit de Sancta Maria de Hurnl' in die illa quando Aluricus de Bintewrde tenuit soccagiam in Waltham de patre meo."

Test.: Robert, frater meus, Gaufridus fil. Walteri, William de Plaisseto, Jorden de Taiden', Osbert de Braie, Radulfus Magnus, Mag. Alexander, William de Guerr', Alfr' Pied de Vilain, Walter de Camera, William de Chocam, etc.

Temp. Hen. II (early).

¹ Second Earl of Essex, second son of Geoffrey, first Earl.

12. GRANT by G[eo]ffrey de Mandaville] Earl of Essex, to all his men and friends, Franks and English, clerical and lay of "ecclesie mee de Hurleia, et monachis ibidem Deo servientibus totam decimam totius pasnagii omnium maneriorum totius dominii mei quicunque ea teneant libere et quiete et plenarie in porcis et denariis et etiam sine parti-

cupatione cujuscunque hominis et sicut carta patris mei eis testatur habere."

Temp. Hen. II (early).

Seal missing.

Endorsed : " Gaufridi secundi Comitiss."

13. H[ENRICUS] Rex Anglie, et Dux Normannie et Aquitanie et Comes Andegavie, Osberto de la Herlotere, salutem, Precipio tibi quod iuste habere facias priori de Herleia et monachis decimas suas de Meidencota sicut eas melius habuerunt tempore H[enrici] avi mei. Et nisi feceris J. Sarum Episcopus faciat ne amodo inde clamorem audiam pro penuria recti.

Test. : Peter de la Mara apud London.

Temp. Hen. II (early).

Fragment of great seal.

14. H[ENRICUS] Rex Anglie et Dux Normannie et Aquitanie et comes Andegavie, Willelmo de Lond' salutem, Precipio tibi quod iuste et sine dilatione et integre habere facias priori et monachis de Herleia decimas suas de Esegarestona [East Garston] sicut ipsi eas melius habuerunt, et plenius anno et die quo rex H[enricus] auus meus fuit uiuus et mortuus, et nisi feceris J.¹ Sarebut[iensis] episcopus faciat ne amodo inde clamorem audiam pro penuria recti.

Test. : Peter de la Mara, apud Lond'.

[1154-1184].

¹ Joceline de Bailol, *ob.* 1184.

15. CONFIRMATION by Henry II "pro anima Willelmi¹ filii mei," to Hurley Priory of all the grants made by "primus Gaufridus de Magnavilla," viz. : "totam eandem villam de Herle et sibi circumiacens nemus . . . ecclesiam de Waltam cum una hida terre et dimidia de Warefeld que ad ecclesiam illam pertinet et ecclesie de Herleia

subiacent et totam terram Eadwardi que dicitur Watecumba et eandem ecclesiam de Watecumbe": and of the grants by Tuoldus Dapifer, and of Edricus Prepositus; and of the grant of William Constabularius Cestrie "in Peritona et in Claïora," and of "illas quatuor solidatas terre in boscagio quas Agnes ejusdem Willelmi filia ecclesie de Herle postea pro ejusdem anima et sua dedit per cartam Domini sui et viri Roberti confirmavit. . . ."

"Ista eis pro anima avi mei Regis Henrici et Willelmi filii mei concessi, et anime mee salute et regine mee Alienore voluntate et petitione."

Test.: William, fil. Johannis, Nigel de Broc, Robert de Dunstanvill.

Dated: Apud Rading [1158].

With great seal, broken.

¹ Died in 1156.

16. GRANT by Laurence, Abbot of Westminster, to William, Prior, and the brothers of Hurley, of the church of Jezthamesteda [Easthampstead, co. Berks], with all appurtenances, "quatinus inde fratres in festo beati Ædwardi singulis annis ampliozem habeant refectionem et huius intuitu beneficii in predicti Sancti veneratione ipsi se fratres deuotiores exhibeant et promptiores".

Test.: Alan, dapifer, Mag. Robert de Lolleswurda, Simon, clericus Abbatis, Maurice de Sancto Albano, Mag. Walter de Constanz, William de Mulesham, Ralph, frater eius, Ralph de Coggeshala, Robert de Cliuelande.

[C. 1159-1175.]

Without seal.

17. CONFIRMATION by Henry II, of the grant made by his grandfather, Henry I, to Hurley Priory, of those six hides of land, and of all their privileges and possessions, "pro anima ejusdem Regis et mea".

Test. : Warin, camerarius, fil. Ger[oldi], Nigel de Broc Robert de Dunst'.

Dated : "Apud Clarendon" [1165-1189].

With great seal, green wax.

18. CONFIRMATION by William [de Mandeville], Comes de Essex, to Aluered de la Dene, of all the land which the Prior and Convent of Hurley had granted to him.

Test. : Ralph de Bernieres, Saual de Osenuill, Otuel de Bouill, John de Rocella, prior de Herle, Eustace, camerarius, etc.

[1169-1176.]

Seal missing.

19. MANDATE from William¹ [de Mandeville], Comes de Essex, to his bailiffs, etc., "et ministris suis in quorum ministeriis ecclesia Sancte Marie de Herleia et monachi mei decimaciones vel quecunque alia beneficia possident", to restore to the Priory all the the tithes and possessions "per totam terram meam ubicunque sint vel quicunque eas tenuerint in toto feodo meo quas pater meus comes Gaufridus eidem ecclesie dedit et concessit".

[1169-1189].

Seal missing.

¹ Was third Earl of Essex, and brother of Geoffrey, second Earl, sons of Geoffrey, first Earl. Was appointed Justiciar of England by Ric. I ere he went to the Crusades in 1199, but died ere entering on his duties.

This Deed is given in full in Dugdale's *Monasticon Anglicanum*, being No. VIII of the Deeds of Hurley Priory : and also in Madox's *Formulare Anglicanum*, No. LXXXVIII.

20. CONFIRMATION by William [de Mandeville], Comes de Essex, to the church of St. Mary of Hurley, of "totum boscum manerio de Hurleia pertinens et totum boscum ville de parua Waltham pertinens, ita quod nullus hominum meorum in boscis prenomatis sine assensu et

licencia prioris prediacte ecclesie vel ballivorum suorum quicquam capiat, sicut carta avi¹ mei Gaufridi de Mandevilla et carta patris mei Comitis Gaufridi testantur."

Test.: Johannes Marescallus, William de Lisuris, David de Jarpenuilla, Osebert de Sancto Clero, John de Matheme, Richard de Bercorell', John de Rochell', Robert, fil. Ernulfi, Ralph, fil. Berengeri, Robertus Bedellus, Ricardus Janitor Eustachius Camerarius, Gileburtus Ostiarius, etc.

[1169-1189.]

With seal of Earl William, originally of white wax, now (having been mended, etc.) of a dull brown colour.

¹ The grandfather of Earl William was named William, and it is a little curious that in all these Mandeville Charters he is not mentioned or alluded to in any way. I am inclined to think that "avi" in this Deed should be "proavi", and that the first Geoffrey, founder of Hurley Priory, is intended.

See next Charter, which is almost identical, except that it has "proavi". Query, whether that Charter was given in correction of this?

21. CONFIRMATION by William [de Mandeville], Comes de Æssex, to the church of St. Mary of Hurley, of "totum boscum Manerio de Herleia pertinens et totum boscum ville de Parva Waltam pertinens libere et quiete et etiam sine participatione cuiuscunque hominis aut divisione, et ita insuper quod nullus hominum meorum in boscis istis prenominationis quicquam capiat sine assensu et licentia prioris ecclesie vel Ballivorum suorum et sicut Carta proavi mei Gaufridi de Mandevilla, et sicut Carta patris mei Comitis Gaufridi testantur Precipio igitur et ex auctoritate Dei omnipotentis firmiter defendo ne aliquis hanc meam donationem et antecessorum meorum quoquomodo infringere presumat nisi ad iudicium et ad dampnationem tam corporis quam anime".

Test.: Johannes Marescallus, William de Lisuris, David de Gerpenuill, Osbert de Sancto Clero, Richard de Berchel', dapifer, etc. "Et insuper tota etiam teste curia comitis apud Lund[onium] in cuius presentia hec lecta est

carta et a domino Comite ut prescriptum est benigne concessa."

[1169-1189.] Seal missing.

22. GRANT by William [de Mandeville], Comes de Essexa, to Rodbert, fil. Ernulfi, of all the land in Hurley which he now holds of the Earl, as freely as Rodbert's father held it in King Henry's time [Henry I], and as Rodbert now holds it.

Test. : Rohese, Comitissa, mater mea, John de Roch', Richard, dapifer meus.

[1169-1189.] Seal missing.

Damaged by damp, and in some parts illegible, but fortunately the main part of it is given in a Charter of Ralph, Prior of Hurley (see No. 28).

23. NOTIFICATION by William [de Mandeville], Earl of Essex, that he has granted and confirmed to Thomas, fil. Aluredi, all the land of his [Thomas's] father "in Herleio" [Hurley] and in Waltham. To hold at a rent of 16 pence per annum.

Test. : Elias de Hint', William, fil. Ernaldi, Richard de Bercherell, Geoffrey de Sai, Geoffrey de Mandeville, Ralph, fil. Durant, Bernard Pincerna, Eustace Camerarius, William, fil. Alexandri.

[1169-1189.]

With seal of the Earl in white wax, damaged.

About three-quarters of the seal left, showing the body of horse, and of man (*minus* head), and a few letters of the inscription.

24. GRANT by William de Mandeville, Earl of Essex, to Hurley Priory, of a rent from lands in Hurley and Little Waltham [co. Berks].

[1169-1189.] No seal.

For the full text of this Deed, *v.* Appendix.

25. CONFIRMATION by Walter, Abbot, and the Convent of Westminster, to Hurley Priory, of the church of Jezam-

stede [Easthampstead], to hold it "quatinus eam in libera habeant disposicione et in usus suos et utilitatem ecclesie sue quicquid ex ea possunt deducere convertant et ob hoc beneficium festiuitatem beati regis Edwardi et deuotius celebrent et honorabilius peragant sicut eandem ecclesiam sancte recordacionis Laurentius abbas ob hanc causam eis liberaliter contulit et sua carta confirmauit."

Test.: William, the Prior, Roger and Geoffrey, chaplains, Geoffrey Picot, seneschal, etc.

[1175-1191.]

Seal missing.

26. CONFIRMATION by Agnes, filia Willelmi Constabularii Cestrie, of those two hides of land "quas pater meus dedit ecclesie de Herleia pro anima sua, scilicet unam in Peritona et alteram in Claiores" [Pyrton and Clare, co. Oxon.], with all their appurtenances.

She also grants "quatuor solidatas terre in boschagio que fuerunt Godwini Bytt et totam terram illam que dicitur Holecumbæ [Holcombe, a tithing in Oxon.] cum suis pertinentibus cum Managio Haroldi, sicut fosse tenent per circuitum usque ad Cruces," etc. . . . Et dedi . . . et per cartam meam confirmavi et ad remedium animarum nostrarum in perpetuam elemosinam liberali donacione super altare imposui.

Test.: William, prior de Eardberie [? Erdbury, co. Warw.], Orm canonicus, Reiner presbyter, Roger fil. Alfr' de Sireb', John, fil. Ricardi, nepos domine, Robert "parvo consilio," etc.

Temp. Hen. II.

With seal (broken and mended), and counterseal (much rubbed).

AGNETIS F is still on the seal, which is attached to the vellum by four strings of whipcord, knotted.

The Priory of Erdbury was not founded till early Henry II, which settles the date so far.

For the full text of this Charter, *v.* Appendix.

27. GRANT by Ralph¹ de Arundel, Prior, with the assent of the convent of Hurley, of a "pensionem de ecclesia de Jezhamstede [Easthampstead] scilicet quatuor solidos Secretario nostro et nominatim hac de causa ut tam presentes quam futuri sacriste ad missam Sancte Marie quam cantare constitui honorifice et plenarie cereos ualeant administrare."

Ante 1176—November 30, 1200.

With the Priory and the Prior's seals.

¹ Created Abbot of Westm., November 30, 1200.

For the full text of this Charter, *v.* Appendix.

28. GRANT by Ralph, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Osbert, son of Rodbert, of his land of Parva Waltam and his land of Herleye, at a yearly rent of one silver mark ; with the virgate¹ of land of Brocdene, at a yearly rent of four shillings. To hold the same in as full a manner "sicut aliquis antecessorum eius illas melius et liberius tenuit per predictum servicium sicut carta² Wilhelmi comitis testatur et volumus quod tenementum eius non minuatur".

Test. : Omer, decanus, Hugh de Sotesbroc, Rodbert, fil. eius, Jurdan, fil. Reginaldi, William, fil. Turri, Rodbert, fil. Org', William de la Dene.

With the Priory seal in dark green wax, representing the Annunciation, and counterseal.

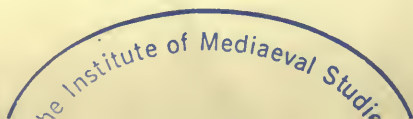
Ante 1176—November 30, 1200.

¹ A virgate was the yardland, varying from 15 to 40 acres in various places.

² See No. 21.

29. GRANT by Ralph, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Walter Cocus "servienti nostro", of the virgate of land which Godwin Purcance held "priusquam haberet terram patris sui". To hold at an annual rent of forty pence.

Test. : Omer, capellanus, Rodbert, fil. Arnulfi, Gaufridus,



fil. Thome, Willelmus, fil. Radulfi, Willelmus de Ladene, Robertus, fil. Orgari, Willelmus Pincerna "et multis aliis" Arnaldus, pistor, Reginald, cocus.

Ante 1176—November 30, 1200.

It is curious that, after so many witnesses, and after the "et multis aliis", the baker and cook of the establishment should be brought in.

30.¹ GRANT by Herebert, Bishop of Salisbury, to Hurley Priory, of all tithes of sheaves at Waltham, and the oblations made on St. Laurence's Day, to be applied to the offices of the sacristy. The residue arising as well from the chapel of Warfield as from the small tithes and offerings arising from the said church of Waltham, shall go to the support of the perpetual vicar instituted into the said church by the Prior and convent of Hurley.

Test.: Hugh de Gaherst, Thomas de Chebbcham, Richard de Wdele, Marcian de Wilton, Mag. Peter, canonicus de Suwik, Barttolomew, Abraham, Adam, capellani nostri, etc.

[1194-1214.]

With the Bishop's seal (mended).

A beautifully written and curiously worded Charter.

¹ Conf. No. 46.

Herbert Poor was Bishop, 1194-1217. The first witness, Hugh de Gaherst, was Chancellor, and the second witness, Thos. de Chebbcham, was sub-dean in 1214; and as their offices are not mentioned in the Charter, the date of it is probably before 1214.

31. CONFIRMATION by Beatrix de Mandeuilla, for the salvation of her soul, the souls of her father and mother, and of her ancestors, to the church of St. Mary and the monks there, of "donationem illam quam Comes Willelmus de Mandeuilla fecit . . . de omni redditu quem habuit in Herleia, et quicquid habuit in parua Waltham".

Test.: Baldewin de Feltsted, William de Hairun, Bartholomew de Chesneto, Matthew de Berden', Robert and Walter, her chaplains, Thomas, persona de Richeling',

Hugh Peverel, Richard Puhier, Adam de Chokefeld, Lefwin and John, her servants.

Temp. Ric. I.

With seal of green wax, SIGILLVM BEATRIZ DE MANDAVILLA.

32. CONFIRMATION by Geoffrey, fil. Petri, to the church and monks of Hurley, of that grant "quam Comes Willelmus de Manduilla eis fecit pro anima sua de hoc quod habuit in Hurle et totam parvam Waltham".

Test. : Simon de Bello Campo, Guiscard Laidet, William de la Rochele, Simon de Pateshulle, Ralph de Mandeuilla, Richard de Heriet, Rand' de Mandeuilla, David de Jerpunuell' and William his brother, etc.

Temp. John.

With light-brown seal, a lion, and counterseal.

33. SETTLEMENT of suits made by the Abbots of Reading and Abingdon and the Prior of Wallingford, in obedience to a mandate of Pope Innocent III, between Hurley Priory and Walenden [Walden, co. Essex] Abbey, concerning tithes from assarts at Walenden, North Mimms [co. Herts.], and Shenley [co. Herts.].

Test. : John,¹ Abbot of St. Albans ; Reiner, Prior of the same ; Master William de Massingham, etc.

Temp. John.

¹ John de Cella, Abbot, 1200 to 1214.

34. RESTORATION by John Bukerel, rector ecclesie de Senleg [Shenley, co. Herts.], to Hurley Priory, of the third part of the sheaf-tithe from the demesne of Shenley, the small tithes from the said demesne, and all other tithes leased by him of the Priory.

Temp. John.

35. GRANT by William, fil. Eadrici, to Walter Faber, of half a virgate of land "in parva Waltham quod est men-

brum de Herleia", with all the appurtenances, "pro auxilio quod mihi contulit ad terram meam retinendam": to hold at a rent of 2*sh.* 6*d.*

Test.: Mag. Ham[o] de Waltham, Osbert de Waltham, William, fil. Tierri, etc.

Temp. John.

Cf. next Deed.

36. GRANT by Richard, fil. Gaufridi de Hurle, to Gaufridus Cornubiensis of that half virgate of land in Little Waltham which William, fil. Eadrich, held from him, and which Walter Faber obtained by grant from the said William and gave to the aforesaid Gaufridus.

Test.: William Albin, Simon de Wautham, Thomas, fil. Terri, Walter Tholy, etc.

Temp. John.

37. GRANT by William de Lullebroc to Simon Noel of a messuage in Hurley.

Test.: John de Herleya, Robert Albin, William Marescallus.

Temp. John.

38. CONFIRMATION by Geoffrey¹ de Say to Hurley Priory, of "donacionem illam quam comes Willelmus de Mandevill fecit Deo et predictis monachis de omni redditu quem habuit in Herleia et de parvo Waltham".

Test.: Baldwin de Feltsted, William de Heron, Richard de Belerse, Bartholomew de Kaineto, Hugh Peverel, Adam de Coccesfeld, and many more.

Late 12th century.

White seal, man in armour on horseback, but much rubbed.

¹ Geoffrey de Say was son of Beatrix, wife of William de Say, and aunt to William, third Earl of Essex.

39. CONFIRMATION by Geoffrey,¹ fil. Petri, Comes Essexie, to the church of St. Mary and the monks there, of "donationes illas quas Comes Willelmus de Mandevilla eis fecit pro anima sua de hoc quod habuit in Herle. Et totam parvam Waltham in liberam et perpetuam elemosi[n]am."

Test.: Simon de Bello Campo, Gwiscard Laidet, Ralph de Mandeuilla, Richard de Herieth, David de Jarpenuille, Richard de Perthehale, Simon de Patheshulle, William de Buchingham, Hugh cappellanus, Philip de Oxehaie, Richard Tane, Richard fil. Hugonis.

Temp. John.

With seal, of green wax, broken (but now mended), and counterseal, the angemma, with inscription SECRETV GALFRIDI FIL. PETRI.

¹ Married Beatrice, great-great-granddaughter of G. de Mandeville, I; was Sheriff of Essex and Herts, 1192-94.

40. GRANT by Simon Albin to Robert Odein, son of Robert Odein, of a messuage and three acres of land in Hurley, which Robert his father gave to Alan, son of Ralph Calvus, uncle of Robert.

Test.: Dom. Robert de Waltham, John de Hurle, William de Lullebroc, etc.

Early 13th century.

41. GRANT by Robert, fil. Orgari, to Emma his daughter in free marriage, of seven acres of land in Hurley, lying "juxta Sauerne",¹ "juxta Lauerehemere", "juxta Standun", etc.

Test.: Philip de Oxehaie, John, fil. Osberti, William de Dena.

Temp. Hen. III (early).

¹ Sauerne was the name of a meadow in Hurley, measuring 68 acres 1 rood 3 perches (Tithe App., 1843); enclosed in Temple Park in 1876.

42. CONFIRMATION by Joan Cole, of Henley, widow of Robert Cole, to the Prior and convent of Hurley, of a yearly rent of 3 shillings granted to it by the said Robert, from the house occupied by Robert Molendinarius her brother, and formerly held by Osbert Pelliparius [skinner] of Henley, with a rent of 12 pence, which Osbert is accustomed to pay to the Priory, "Et ut predictus conventus in die anniversarii nostri pro sua devocione et labore lautius subveniatur, volo et concedo quod predicti tres solidi ad pitanciam suam deputentur."

Test.: Robert de Hurle, William de Ponte de Henle, John de la Grenelane, etc.

Temp. Hen. III (early).

43. GRANT by Geoffrey de Camera, fil. Rob. de Camera, to Walter Bernard, of half an acre of land in Hurley.

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Hugh de la Dene, etc.

Temp. Hen. III (early).

44. QUIT-CLAIM by Geoffrey de Camera de Hurle, to Walter Bernard, of an annual rent of sixpence due from Geoffrey Chele from a tenement called Chelescroft in Hurley.

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Hugh de la Dene, Jordan Reyner, etc.

Temp. Hen. III (early).

45. EXHORTATION by Nicholas [Chiaramonti], Bishop of Tusculum, Papal Legate, to all the faithful in Christ, as follows: "Uniuersitatem vestram rogamus, monemus, et hortamur in Domino, quatinus W. Priori et fratribus monasterii de Hurle, qui sine bonorum virorum auxilio perficere nequeunt opus ecclesie quod ceperunt, de bonis vobis a Deo prestitis manum misericordie porrigatis, ut per hec et alia bona que feceritis vitam vobis adquiratis eternam;" all contributors to be allowed release of ten days penance.

Dated : St. Albans, xvi Kal. Jan. [17th December],
s.a. [1219-1227].

46.¹ CONFIRMATION by Richard,² Bishop of Salisbury, of the grant by Herbert, his predecessor, to Hurley Priory, of all the tithes of sheaves of Waltham, and the oblations made on St. Laurence's Day "ad officium sacriste conventendas," the said tithes now being leased to William, fil. Jordani, at a yearly rent of one besant.³

Test. : Mag. Richard de Rothomago, Dom. Richard de Mapoudre, Mag. Henry de Bissepostun, etc.

Dated : Amesbury, xvi Kal. Nov. [17th October], "anno pontificatus nostri quarto" [1220].

With fine impression of the Bishop's seal and counterseal.

¹ Cf. Nos. 30, 48, 49.

² Laid first stone of the present Cathedral at Salisbury, April 28, 1220.

³ A Byzantine coin brought to England by the Crusaders, which was perhaps fixed on their shields.

47. CHARTER of William,¹ Abbot of Westminster, granting to all who contribute towards the construction "novi operis apud Westmonasterium in honorem matris virginis inchoati," participation in the spiritual benefits exercised by the Abbey, "in missis, elemosinis, vigiliis, psalmis et aliis bonorum exercitiis," as well as "in ecclesiis subscriptis que specialitate fraternitatis ecclesie nostre sunt coniuncte," viz., Fécamp, Malmesbury, Malvern, "in ecclesia Herleensi [Hurley], et cella S. Bartholomei de Sudburia," as well as a release of 200 days to be deducted from any penances enjoined, twenty-one days' indulgence, etc.

[1220-1222.]

With seals of the Abbey, and of Abbot William (one other missing).

¹ This will be William de Humeto, Abbot, 1214-1222. The new work of the Lady Chapel was begun to be built during his abbacy, the foundation stone being laid by Henry III on Whitsun Eve, 1221 (Dugdale's *Mon. Anglic.*). This Lady Chapel was pulled down to make room for Henry VII's Chapel, "which stands in the same place" (Widmore).

48, 49. CONFIRMATION (in duplicate) by William [de Wenda] Dean, and the Chapter of Salisbury, after inspeximus, of the Charter of Richard, Bishop of Salisbury, confirming [in 1220] to Hurley Priory the grant by his predecessor Herbert, of the tithes of Waltham.

Temp. Hen. III [*post* 1220].

With seal of the Dean and Chapter.

Cf. Nos. 30, 46.

50. COMPOSITION between William, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, and Hugh, Prior, and the convent of Cathale [Cattle, in Northaw, co. Herts], touching a moiety of the tithes of crops from the assart bestowed by Ernulf de Magnavilla from his own lordship on Cathale Priory, in South Mimms [co. Midd.] under Enfield [co. Midd.], whereof the Abbot and convent of Waleden [Walden, co. Essex] ought to have one moiety and Hurley Priory the other, viz., that Cathale Priory shall retain that moiety yearly arising from the said assart which belongs to Hurley Priory, and should they henceforth acquire other lands of the above lordship in South Mimms, they shall pay a moiety of the tithe of the crops to Hurley Priory.

Test.: Magister Robert de Archis, William de Purle, William Andegavensis, Mag. Randulf, persona de Mimmes, Robert, vicarius de Enfield.

Dated: 6 Hen. III [1221-1222].

With fine seal of Cathale Priory [one more specimen of this seal is known to exist, viz., on Stowe Charter 157 [Br. Mus.].

This Deed is a picture of caligraphy.

51. GRANT by Richard, Abbot, and the convent of Westminster, to Richard, Prior, and the monks of Hurley, of all their manor of Jeshamested [Easthampstead], paying to the church of Westminster "ad reparacionem domorum

conventui assignatarum, centum solidos pro omni servicio et seculari consuetudine et demanda."

Temp. Hen. III [1222-1236].

With two Abbey seals in green wax.

52. COVENANT between the Prior and convent of Hurleg' [Hurley] and Robert de Diua, Prior, and the Brethren of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England "super omnibus minutis decimis in Chippeham ecclesiam de Hurleg' contingentibus," viz., that the said Hospitallers shall hold for ever the said tithes, paying yearly to Hurley Priory 3½ marks; the Priory granting to the Hospitallers the rent of twelve pence "de quadam piscaria de Wikes et totum emolumentum quod possit inde eisdem accrescere."

"Actum anno gratie MCCXXVIII in capitulo generali apud Melchevern."

With seal of the Hospital [Head of St. John Baptist], and counterscal [Paschal Lamb].

53. LEASE,¹ for 25 years from All Saints Day, 1231, by Nicholas de Oxheya to Richard, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of his whole land "de Chadelhengre,"² with the service of Bartholomew de Hulle for his tenement in Elintone¹ [now Maidenhead]; the Priory, at the end of the term to leave the land sown with seven quarters of wheat and five quarters of mixed corn, etc.

¹ This deed is riddled with holes, and unfortunately the first letter of this word has a hole through the centre of it, which makes it doubtful whether it is C or E; but as there is no Clinton anywhere near Hurley, and as Maidenhead was at this time called Elynton [the last-known mention of Elinton as the name of this town is 1296: cf. *History and Antiquities of the Hundred of Bray*, ed. C. Kerry, 1861, p. 135], I incline to Elintone.

² Channy Grove (Hurley).

For the full text of this Deed, *v.* Appendix.

54. UNDERTAKING by R——, abbot of St. James of Waleden [Walden, co. Essex] and the convent there that

they will restore to Hurley Priory "*sine diminucione et absque qualibet difficultate integraliter*," their tithes of Waleden, Wiggefoss, Thorley and Mimmes, at the end of the term of six years for which the Priory leased them to the Abbey, viz., from the Feast of St. Peter ad vincula [1st August] next after the consecration of Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury [1234].

55. JUDGMENT by Mag. Geoffrey de Tering and three other arbitrators in suit between Hurley Priory and John de Herle touching (*a*) the payment of Peter's pence, (*b*) the view of frankpledge at the Prior's Court in Hurley Manor, (*c*) the abuses committed by the said John and his men, (*d*) the taking of estover¹ in the wood of the Priory.

Dated : Hurley "*coram priore et conventu*," vigil of Nat. of the B. V. Mary [7th September] in the first year of the consecration of Eadmund, Archbishop of Canterbury [1234].

With two small white seals, defaced ; two others missing.

¹ Estover=wood.

56. CONFIRMATION by King Henry III, to Hurley Priory "*que est cella Abbacie de Westmonasterio*," and to Richard, the Prior, of all the Priory lands and possessions.

Test. : William, Earl of Albemarle, Walter Marescallus, Gilbert Basset, etc.

Dated : "*per manum venerabilis patris R[adulphi Nevill] Cycestrensis episcopi, cancellarii nostri, apud Wudestok*," 27th February, Anno 20 [1236].

57. QUIT-CLAIM by Theobald, Prior, and the Convent of Hurley, to Robert de Hurley, of certain "*wyce*" as marked out by bounds "*que facta fuerunt coram villata de Hurle die Jovis proxima ante festum Sancti Johannis Baptiste anno regni regis Henrici filii Johannis xxx octavo*," [1254], for which quit-claim the same Robert has given to the Prior four marks, and will give yearly a rent of four

shillings ; on non-payment of which the Priory has power to distrain "*nisi per iudicium et legem terre dicta Wyca¹ in communem eiciatur, et ita quod hoc non fuerit per negligentiam vel per defectum plene defensionis predicti Roberti vel heredum suorum.*"

¹ Wyca = a farmstead.

58. LEASE by the Prior and Convent of Hurley to Mag. Nicholas de Plumpton, papal chaplain, Archdeacon of Norfolk, of all their land in Kahyngeham [Kingham, co. Oxon] for seven years, at a yearly rent of three marks, except the messuage held by Ysabel relict of Richard Novreynch in dower.

Dated : xi Kal. Jun. [22nd May] 44 Hen. III [1260].

With seal of the archdeaconry (mended).

59. LEASE by Hurley Priory to Mag. Richard de Aysse, Rector of Kayngeham [Kingham] of all their lands in Kingham (except the messuage some time held by Ysabel, relict of Richard Novreus in dower) for a term of three years at an annual rent of three marks.

Dated : xi Kal. Jun. [22nd May] 51 Hen. III [1267].

60. NOTIFICATION of the receipt by Mag. Richard de Esshe, rector of Kaingeham [Kingham, co. Oxon.] of seisin from Hurley Priory of lands in Kingham, viz., 22 acres sown with wheat [frumentum], one acre and a rood sown with white wheat [siligo], six acres and a half sown with beans, and 20 acres and a rood sown with oats.

Dated : xi Kal. Jun. [22nd May] 51 Hen. III [1267.]

61. COVENANT of lease from John Cocus to Richard son of Richard de Brumpton [Brimpton], of one acre of land in Hurley, "*illam scilicet acram que jacet in Estfeld inter terram Prioris de Hurle et terram predicti Ricardi et extendit unum capud usque ad Seuerne*";¹ to hold from

Michaelmas, 52 Hen. III [1268], "quousque de predicta acra sex croppas plenarie receperit".

Test. : Jordan le Forester, Robert de Hurle, Philip le Blunt, etc.

¹ Seuerne (a meadow) was enclosed in Temple Park in 1876.

62. CONFIRMATION by Godfrey, Bishop of Worcester, of a friendly settlement between Mag. Thomas de la Leye, rector of Magna Compton [Long Compton, co. Warw.] and Hurley Priory, by which the said Rector shall hold the greater and less tithes of the lordships of Magna Compton [Long Compton] and Weston [co. Warw.] of the Priory, paying to the same at Compton 40s^h. yearly "sub pena viginti solidorum solvendorum pro contumacia seu negligencia sua fabrice ecclesie Wigornie quocienscunque termino statuto in solucione dicte pecunie fuerit cessatum una cum principali debito, dampnis et expensis", etc.

Dated : London, in July 1269.

Cf. 105.

63. GRANT by Geoffrey de Camera de Hurnleya to Richard, fil. Henrici Holdehard, of three acres of arable land in Hurley, lying in the fields called Estfeld,¹ and Hurlond.

Test. : Robert de Hurnle, John le Cu, Simon Albyn, etc.
Temp. Hen. III.

¹ Enclosed in Temple Park in 1876, 54 acres 1 rood 23 perches (Tithe App.).

64. GRANT by Geoffrey de la Chambre to Hurley Priory "et precipue ad supplendos sacristie defectus", of an acre of land on Standon.

Test. : Richard, vicarius de Hurle ; Robert de Hurle, Hugh de la Dene, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

65. GRANT by Geoffrey de Camera to Richard, fil. Henrici Holdiard, of an acre of arable land in Estfeld in Hurley.

Test.: Robert de Hurle, William de Lollebrok, Hugh de la Dene, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

66. GRANT by Geoffrey de Camera to Richard, fil. Henrici Holdierd, of two acres of land in Hurley.

Test.: Thomas Pruf, Thomas Argent', Richard Hunwine, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

67. GRANT by Geoffrey de la Chambre to Henry Cubbel, of an acre of land in Hurley, extending towards Smalhangredene and on to the King's highway from Marlow to Henley.

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Hugh de la Dene, Hugh Brun, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

68. GRANT by Robert Albin to Alan, fil. Radulfi Calvi, of a messuage, with three acres of land in Hurley, "mesuagio scilicet stante super unam de illis tribus acris, quod Radulfus Calvus tenuit et alia iacente ad Sauerne¹ . . . et tertia cadente in Sauerne", at a rent of thirty-one pence.

Test.: Hamo, capellanus, William Albin, Hugh Brun, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

¹ Sauerne (meadow) enclosed in Temple Park in 1876.

69. GRANT by Simon Albyn to Hurley Priory, in pure and perpetual alms for the salvation of his soul and the souls of his ancestors, of an annual rent of sixpence, which William Taylard "quondam Rector ecclesie de Warefeld

michi reddere consuevit" for a messuage in Hurley, "suscipiendos . . . ad supplendum defectus sacristie¹ et suscipiendos per manus sacriste qui pro loco et tempore ad hoc fuerit constitutus."

Test.: Hugh de la Dene, Osbert de Hurle, Henry Pincerna, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

¹ "Sacristia," has two meanings, viz., the office of sacristan, or the building or part of the church in which are kept the church goods in the charge of the sacristan. These are, according to the *Liber Ordinis S. Victoris Parisiensis MS.*, cap. 20: "reliquiæ, et omnia ornamenta altaris, et sanctuarii ac totius ecclesie, sive in auro, sive in argento, sive in ostro et palliis, et tapetibus et cortinis, sacre quoque vestes, et pallæ, et manutergia, calices et textus, et cruces, et thuribula et candelabra, et cætera vasa quæ vel ad ministerium, vel ad ornamentum altaris et sanctuarii totiusque ecclesie pertinent."

70. GRANT by Simon Albin, of Hurley, to Henry Culbel and Matilda his wife, of one acre of arable land "in territorio de Hurle que jacet juxta terram Osberti de Hurle et abutat super terram ipsius Osberti versus austrum et regiam viam versus aquilonem inter duas cruces", at an annual rent of two pence, "pro omni servicio et exaccione. Ita tamen quod quicunque predictorum Henrici et Matildis prius obierit dimidiam partem predictæ acre licite possit legare vel assignare cuicunque vel ubicunque pro salute anime sue voluerit, exceptis viris religiosis."

Test.: William Marescallus, Geoffrey le Fraunceys, Henry le Buteller, Richard, vicarius.

Temp. Hen. III.

71. GRANT by William de Stanford, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Hugh, fil. Willelmi de la Dene, of all that "purprestura"¹ in Hurley, "quam idem Willclmus pater suus de nobis accepit et tenuit."

Test.: Bartholomew de la Hulle, William Albin, Robert de Camera, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

¹ Purprestura = an encroachment, and hence, an enclosure.

72. GRANT by Gilebert de Roscomp, to Osbert, son of Agnes le Franceis, of Hanl' [Henley], of that messuage lately held by William Palmer in Hanl'; at a yearly rent of 12*d.*, payable to Hurley Priory.

Test.: William Estrild, William Godson, Richard de Eya, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

73. GRANT by Ralph, fil. Walteri Blundi, to Hurley Priory, of all his rent in Hanleia [Henley on Thames.]

Test.: Laurence Duket, Matthew Aurifaber, William de Westmonasterio, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

74. GRANT by William Holdierd and Egelina his wife to Hurley Priory, of a yearly rent of 12*d.* due from John le Tannur for land called Langenckere in Bensentune (Bensington, co. Oxon.)¹

Test.: Ralph de Lake, Thomas Carbunel, Gilbert Rotarius, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

¹ Benson.

75. GRANT by Simon, fil. Ade de Watham, to Aubrey de Londoniis, of all his land at Littlefeld,¹ and an acre "super dunam" [? in Waltham, co. Berks.]

Test.: Ivo, sacerdos de Braye, Giles, sacerdos de Waltham, John de Hureley, Robert Maudut, Gilbert "huius carte scriptor", etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

¹ ? Littlewick.

76. GRANT by William, fil. Willelmi Bubbe de Jeshamstede, to Richard, fil. Ricardi Ailward, of two acres of land in Wythycrofte field in the said vill [Easthamstead.]

Test.: Osbert Juvenis, Roger del Suhthulle, Roger de Eton, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

77. GRANT by Richard Horsnail and Mabilia his wife, with consent of Matilda, their daughter and heir, to the Priory of Herleya [Hurley] "et precipue ad sustentationem et emendationem luminarii coram altari beati Michaelis", of the messuage in Hurley "quod Ailricus carpentarius de nobis tenuit".

Test. : William Albin, William Mareschallus, Achard de Stanford, Walter Pancye, Hugh Brun.

Temp. Hen. III.

78. GRANT by Geoffrey de Hurle to Robert Odthin of land in Kocsete field in Hurley.

Test. : Jordan, fil. Reineri, Symon Aubin, Walter de Marisco.

Temp. Hen. III.

79. LETTERS of Theobald, Prior of Hurley, confirming the grant made to the Priory by Dom. Ralph "quondam Prior Hurle", of his possessions in Parva Wautham [Little Waltham, in Hurley] "ad faciendum perpetuo anniversarium suum secundum quod in autentico eiusdem a nobis lecto et plenius intellecto continetur".

Temp. Hen. III.

80. GRANT by Matthew de Columbariis to Theobald, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of the land "de Chadehangre",¹ which Nicholas de Oxeya gave to the Priory.

Test. : Dom. John Biset, Dom. Roger de Essex, Dom. Walter de Paueli, Dom. Godfrey de Scudamor, Dom. Richard de Dantesei.

Temp. Hen. III.

¹ Channy Grove, Hurley.

81. LEASE by William, dictus Molendinarius, to Theobald, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all the land bought by him of William le Kentis and Gunnora his wife, in Kayngham [Kingham, co. Oxon.]

Test. : Laurence de Wandlesworthe, William Niger, de Chadlinctone [Chadlington], Reginald Makeblithe, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

82. GRANT by Hugh Brun to Robert, fil. Roberti Molendinarii, and to Alice his wife, of a messuage in Hurley, at an annual rent of 12 pence.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de la Dene, Geoffrey le Franceys, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

83. GRANT by Hugh de la Dene to his son William, of his capital messuage and all his lands in Hurnle [Hurley.]

Test. : Robert de Hurnle, Robert de Camera, Roger le Gras, etc.

Temp. Hen. III.

84. GRANT by Robert de Hurleya to Richard, fil. Ricardi de Brumpton, of four acres of land "infra manerium de Hurley".

Test. : Jordan Forestarius, Hugh de la Hulle, William de la Ho.

Temp. Hen. III (late).

85. CONFIRMATION by Richard, son of Geoffrey de Hurle, to Hurley Priory, of a yearly rent of sixpence due from Galfridus Cornubiensis for land "in parva Waltham menbrum Herley," which rent magister Ivo, clericus, held for a term of 30 years and afterwards granted to the Priory.

Test. : John de Hurle, Hugh Brun, Simon Albin, etc.

Temp. Hen. III-Edw. I.

86. GRANT by Robert de Sotesbroc, son of Hugh de Sotesbroc, to Theobald, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, in soul-alms for Matilda his wife, and others, of all his land

which Robert de Wydeneye sometime held [? in Hurley or Shottesbrook].

Temp. Hen. III-Edw. I [*ante* 1274].

87. SURRENDER by William Marescall de Cahyngeham and Juliana his wife, to Theobald, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all their land at Cahyngeham [Kingham, co. Oxon], in return for a grant from the Priory of a convent loaf and two others "de secundo pane," a gallon of convent beer, "et alium secunde servisie," one "ferculum cum potagio de coquina" every day; 5 *sh.* every year, and two cartloads of wood at Easter and Michaelmas, with a suitable house [cum hospicio competenti]. "Ita quod dictus Willelmus stabit in servitio dictorum Prioris et ecclesie ad voluntatem ipsorum ut sit forestarius, Budellus, Grangiarus fideliter et sine fraude et fictione ministraturus."

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Hugh de la Dene, Samson de Dorne, etc.

Temp. Hen. III-Edw. I? [*ante* 1274].

88. GRANT by William le Franceys, of Hurley, to John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of land in "La Leghe inter grauam Prioris de Hurleya que vocatur Chadehangre¹ et terram Johannis de Heck".

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebroc, John, vicar of Hurley.

Temp. Hen. III-Edw. I.

¹ Channy Grove.

89. ACQUITTANCE by John de Colecestre, rector ecclesie de Leuk [enor],¹ to the Prior and convent of Hurley for 50 marks, which they ought to have paid him last F. of the Purification [2nd February].

Dated: Sat. next ante passionem Domini in xl^a [2nd April] 1273.

¹ Near Tetsworth.

90. BOND from Robert de Hurle to the Prior and convent of Hurley to submit the suit between them "*super bosco, wareнна, diffamacione et aliis articulis*" (which had been settled by the said Robert, Ralph his son, and his brothers, to the satisfaction of the Priory), in case of fresh delinquency, to the arbitration of four persons, viz., the Abbot of Medmenham, and William de Medmeham on the part of the Prior, and Symon, rector of Waltham [co. Berks], and Jordan Forestarius on the part of Robert.

Dated: Hurley, T. aft. Epiphany [6th January], 1274, "*anno regni regis Edwardi tertio et coronacionis sue primo.*"

91. CONVEYANCE, by fine, from Richard, fil. Jordani de Hurleye to John, Prior of Hurley, through William de Lyra his attorney, of a messuage and two virgates of land in Hurley.

Dated: Westminster, "in curia Domini Regis in octavis Sancte Trinitatis," 2 Edw. I [1274] before Masters Roger de Seyton, Ralph de Hengeham, Stephen Heym, Robert Fulco and John de Cobeham, Justices.

92. FRIENDLY composition between John de Lyre, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, and Mag. Richard de Aysse *al.* Esse, rector of Kayngham [Kingham, co. Oxon], touching the third crop of the tithes arising from the lordship of the late William de Magna Villa within the boundaries of the said parish church of Kayngham in possession of Hurley Priory from time out of mind and now, whereas by the death of the lord of Kayngham as the rector asserts, there has come about a thorough mixing up of the demesne land with his parishioners' lands, so that some of the lords of the vill have converted to their own use a great part of the lands of their tenants or rustics, and some small portion of the lordship has been sold or handed over to the parishioners for ever, the Rector begs that henceforth the said third crop of the tithes may

be commuted for a money payment yearly, to which the Priory agrees.

Dated : Hurley, M. bef. All Saints' Day, 1274.

93. INSPEXIMUS and confirmation by Richard [Gravesend], Bishop of Lincoln, of the friendly composition between Hurley Priory and the Rector of Kingham, co. Oxon.

Dated : "apud parcum Stowe" [Stowe Park, co. Linc.], v. id. Nov. [9th November], 1274.

Cf. No. 94.

94. INSPEXIMUS and confirmation by the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, of the confirmation by Richard, Bishop of Lincoln, of the composition between Hurley Priory and the Rector of Kingham.

Dated : Chapter House, Lincoln, xviii Kal. Dec. [14th November], 1274.

With seal (mended).

95. CONFIRMATION by Pope Innocent V to Hurley Priory, of all liberties, privileges, and immunities granted by his predecessors to the Priory.

Dated : At the Lateran, ii Kal. Maii [30th April], in the first year of his pontificate [1276].

With leaden bulla.

96. GRANT by Richard, fil. Jordani Reyner de Hurle, to John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all his land in Hurley, with quit-claim of the tenement which he inherited from his father, in soul-alms for himself and Cristina his wife, "Et super magnum altare beate Marie de Hurle, presentibus Priore et conventu et aliis quamplurimis viris fidedignis propria mea manu Deo et ecclesie devote optuli".

Test. : William de Medmeham, Hugh de Lollebrec, Theobald Marescallus, etc.

Temp. Edw. I [*ante* 1279].

97. GRANT by John Brown to J—— de Lyre, Prior of Hurley, of an acre of land “que jacet inter curiam¹ Prioris et eiusdem conventus et terram Thome Berard”, in Hurley.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Theobald Marescallus, William Beauduz, etc.

Temp. Edw. I [*ante* 1279].

¹ The Chapter House (at Hurley).

98. LEASE by Walter de London, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Andrew le Tannur, of a messuage in Hurley, at an annual rent of six shillings and eightpence.

Test. : Robert de Hurley, Hugh de Lullebroc, Teobald Marscallus, etc.

Dated : 3rd September, 1279.

99. GRANT by John, fil. Walteri Bernard de Hurle, to Walter, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of an annual rent of sixpence (which he has of the gift of Matildis, his mother), “ad sustentacionem unius lampadis ardentis ante crucem stantem ante ostium vestibuli eiusdem ecclesie”.

Test. : Jordan, Forestarius ; Hugh de Lollebrok, John Brun, etc.

Temp. Edw. I [*circ.* 1280-1290].

100. GRANT by John, son of John Cocus, of Hurley, to Dom. Walter de London', Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of a croft “que jacet juxta gravam que appellatur Le Groscroft” [in Hurley].

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebrok, Roger Pincerna, etc.

Temp. Edw. I [*circ.* 1280-1290].

101. GRANT by Richard de Malvernia to Walter, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, for the augmentation of the sacristy, of half an acre of land in the field called Olde-dene, in Hurley.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Reginald Pincerna, etc.

Temp. Edw. I [*circ.* 1280-90].

102. QUIT-CLAIM by Richard Jordan¹ de Hurle, fil. Jordani Reyner, to Walter, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all his lands and tenements in Hurley.

Test.: Robert de Hurle, John Brun, Reginald Pincerna, Theobald Marescallus, etc.

Temp. Edw. I [*circ.* 1280-1290].

¹ Jordan's Field, arable, 40 acres 1 rood 36 perches, lies to the south-west of High Wood.

103. QUIT-CLAIM by Richard le Squier to W[alter] de London, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of a messuage in Hurley.

Test.: Robert de Hurle Hugh de Lolebroc, Theobald Marsecallus, etc.

Temp. Edw. I [*circ.* 1280-1290].

104. QUIT-CLAIM by John de Cumptona, rector ecclesie de Culbewrth [Culworth, co. Northampton], to Dom. W—, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all tithes leased from the Priory for his life in Magna Compton and Eynhoo [Long Compton, co. Warw., and Aynho, co. Northampt.]. The said John also grants to the Priory all his lands and tenements in Great Compton, during his life, his yoke waggon at the same place, with the draught horses, oxen, harness, “et cum omnibus utensilibus”.

Dated: Cullewrth, W. bef. F. of St. Mark [25th April], 1283.

105. INSPEXIMUS by Richard the Prior, and the Chapter of Worcester, of the confirmation by Bishop Godfrey of the friendly settlement between Mag. Thomas de la Leye, rector of Long Compton [co. Warw.] and Hurley Priory.

Dated: In the Chapter of Worcester, F. of St. Augustine, Archbp. of Canterbury [26th May], 1285.

With seal, broken (but now mended).

Cf. No. 62.

106. Bond from William de Bridlinton, rector ecclesie de Augmodesham¹ [Amersham, co. Bucks], "Lincoln. dioc." to Dom. Walter, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, in 10 marks, for arrears of a yearly rent of two marks due to them for the greater and less tithes arising "de dominicis terris Domini Comititis Essexie et Hereford in villa de Augmodesham"; the said 10 marks to be paid half on All Saints' Day and half at Candlemas, 1285 ; with a bond for the regular payment of the two marks yearly so long as he is Rector.

Test. : Mag. Walter, vicarius de Cestresham [Chesham], Adam Calyay, John Trot, clericus, etc.

Dated : 4th June. 1285.

¹ The Manor of Amersham was granted by William I to Geoffrey de Mandeville. The Rectory was handsomely endowed by his grandson, Geoffrey de M., first Earl of Essex.

107. GRANT by Adam, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to William le Franceys, of a plat of land "in la Jnnynge contra portam dicti Willelmi sicut cursus rivuli fontis decurrentis de Altesora" in Hurley, in exchange for a piece of land called La West-croft.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebrec, William de la Dene, etc.

Temp. Edw. I [1285-1299].

108. GRANT by Adam, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Walter Kokkel, of a messuage in Hurley.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, William de la Dene, William le Franceys, Teobald, Marescallus.

Temp. Edw. I [1285-1299].

109. GRANT by Adam, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to John le Coupere, of a messuage, late John Gynot's, in Hurley, and another messuage in La Westrethe.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebrok, Theobald le Marschal, etc.

Temp. Edw. I [1286-1299].

With Priory seal, broken,

110. GRANT by Adam, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Richard Cissor, of Hurley, of a messuage and land lying "desuper Sauerne,"¹ in Hurley.

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebrok, William de la Dene, etc.

Temp. Edw. I [1286-1299].

¹ "The Severn" was enclosed in Temple Park in 1876.

111. LEASE by John, fil. Alexandri le Cok, to John, fil. Will. le Dent, "fratri meo," of a cottage near Grashoggeshous,¹ in Hurley.

Dated: S. a. F. of St. Peter-in-Cathedra [22nd February], 6 Edw. I [1288].

¹ Hodgwell's Farm.

112. GRANT by Adam, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to William de la Dene, of "communam in la Rudyng, Soddone¹ et de Santgath usque la Brodechok,² et de la Brodechok usque Compe³ et de Compe usque Bernardestreth in tempore aperto,"⁴ in return for which the said William has released to the Priory his common in six acres of land in la Rudyng de la Widyelonde.

Dated: 21 Edw. I [November 1292 to November 1293].

¹ Sutton Field (arable), 42 acres 0 rood 15 perches (Tithe App.), east of Hodgwell's Lane.

² Broad Oak Green Field, arable, 72 acres 16 perches (Tithe App.), lies on south side of Henley and Maidenhead Road, south-east of "The Black Boy". It is now grass.

³ Great Camp, Middle Camp, Little Camp = 50 acres 2 roods 35 perches (arable), north, north-east, and north-west of Channy Grove (Tithe App.).

⁴ In tempore aperto = in open time. Presumably, the common rights were only enjoyed at a certain season of the year.

113. QUIT-CLAIM by Richard Jordan to the Prior and convent of Hurley, in respect of arrears "liberacionis¹ et mense a confectione² eorum instrumenti quod de eisdem

habco," up to the F. of St. Peter in Cathedra [22nd February], 21 Edw. I [1293].

Dated : S. before the above Feast.

¹ "Of livery and table (allowance)." "Liberatio = quidquid in pecunia a domino domesticis aut officialibus quotannis vel certis ac definitis anni tempestatibus liberatur seu prebetur" (Ducange).

² Fulfilment.

114. GRANT by Robert de Hurleye to Dom. Adam, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of three acres of land "super Staundone" and one "subtus Staundon," in exchange "pro crofta¹ que vocatur Clemencehulle,"² and a piece of the Priory land "subtus Mareysdoune."

Dated : Hurley, F. of St. Botulph [17th June], 1295.

¹ Crofta, close adjoining a house.

² A field (arable) 23 acres 1 rood 27 perches to the east of the "Diana" Avenue at Hall Place, is called Clemence Field (Tithe App.).

115. GRANT by Richard, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Achard de Stanford, of six acres of land in Hurley, two acres "super donam¹ iuxta viam Fabri," and a messuage with land, which was William Skin's, in the same vill, with quit-claim of his land of Herefeld.

Test. : Jordan, fil. Reginaldi, Roger de Choucele, William de Lullebroc, etc.

[1295-1304.]

¹ A down, or hill.

116. GRANT by Richard de Waledene, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, that William Alured, of Zeshamstede [Easthampstead] and his heirs may be for ever quit "de serviciis de Revewyke,¹ Budelwyke, Aleconnerewyke, Wodewardwyke et officii Tezyngmanwyke," for the tene-ment which the said William's father formerly held of the Priory in Easthampstead.

Test.: John Fachel, John de Benefeld, William de la Dene, etc.

Temp. Edw. I. [1296-1304].

¹ The offices of Reeve, Beadle, Ale-taster, Woodward and Tithing-man.

117, 118. COVENANT between William de la Grenedoune, faber, and Richard, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, "videlicet quod predictus Willelmus pro se, heredibus, vel assignatis suis concessit et ex pacto convencionis tenetur predictis Priori et conventui et eorum successoribus singulis annis imperpetuum ad molarem fabrice sue quam eisdem Priore et conventu recepit tenendam, et molere tres secures de dicta curia Hurle principales, scilicet, de pistrino¹ i, de coquina i, et de braseria i. Ae etiam tres falces quas proprias habent tempore falcacionis pratorum et hoc quocienscunque opus fuerit propriis sumptibus suis absque aliqua contradiccione sui, heredum vel assignatorum suorum. Et in recompensacionem laboris circa instrumenta predicta annuatim facienda, ut predictum est, predictus Ricardus Prior Hurle et conventus euisdem loci pro se et successoribus suis concesserunt predicto Willelmo et heredibus vel assignatis suis, ad rotam fabrice sue predictae exteriorem quandocunque necesse vel opus fuerit de proprio suo, competens meremium² inperpetuum invenire."

Dated: S. bef. Nat. of St. John Bapt. [24th June], 27 Edw. I [1299].

¹ Bakehouse, kitchen, brewhouse.

² Timber.

119. GRANT by William Seger, Prior of Hurley, with the consent of the convent, to Randulf, the Marshal, "pro suo homagio et servicio suo," of half a virgate of land and the meadow of Seuerne,¹ in Hurley, to be held at an annual rent of twopence, "et etiam ad hidagium," one penny for all services, "salvo servicio Domini Regis et salvis nobis serviciis infrascriptis videlicet quod predictus Randulphus, heredes vel assignati sui nobis

et successoribus nostris in officio marescalli deservient tam in aula nostra, prout decet, cotidie, virgam portantes, quam pro equis et affris² nostris novis ferramentis ferrand[o] affirmantes et sumptibus nostris, cum necesse fuerit curantes, que nova ferramenta cum pertinenciis ad manus suas inveniemus peracta, et ipsi ferramenta vetera omnia in feodo optinebunt. Aulam vero nostram quociens necesse fuerit scobare ac mundare et cum stramine ac viridi³ debitis temporibus facient straminare, quod stramen ad grangiam⁴ nostram petere, et viride in dominico nostro colligere et ad aulam nostram asportare, et ut predictum est straminare facient cuius mundacionis fecem vetus stramen ac pulverem ad usus suos proprios asportabunt, et in feodo optinebunt ac etiam qui aulam nostram sic mundaverint vel aliquid viride ad eandem asportaverint, cum aliqua urbanitate panis et servisie⁵ remunerabuntur."

Test. : William, fil. Osemeri de Cocham, Hugh de Hulle, Omer Decanus, Robert, fil. Arnulfi.

Late 13th century.

¹ Seuerne [Severn], enclosed in Temple Park, 1876.

² Bullocks (for ploughing).

³ Rushes from Lady Place vivaria, or fishponds, still existing.

⁴ Tithe barn, still standing in the "Dovecote" yard.

⁵ Beer.

120. QUIT-CLAIM by Richard de Hurle, to Hurley Priory, "et precipue ad supplendos sacristie defectus," of a messuage in Hurley.

Test. : Reginald Forestarius, Henry Pincerna, John Brun, etc.

Late 13th century.

121. QUIT-CLAIM by Ysabel, relict of Richard Norfreys, to Geoffrey, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of the third part of one hide of land held by her as dower in Kayngeham [Kingham, co. Oxon.], "et illam partem curie ad dictam hydam pertinentem", which hide, etc., the above-

mentioned Richard formerly held of the Priory. For which quit-claim the Priory shall give Ysabel daily during life "unum panem conventualem, et porcionem monachalem de ceruisia¹ conventuali, et unum panem qui vocatur Prikethlof,² et unum ferculum monachale de coquina cum potagio",³ and every year at Midsummer Day five shillings "ad vestituram".⁴ And they shall provide her "de competenti hospicio ad inhabitandum quamdiu vixerit in villa de Hurle".

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Hugh de la Dene, Jordan de Bosco, etc.

Late 13th century.

¹ Convent beer.

² Pricked or stamped loaf.

³ "And one mess (monk's allowance) of cooked meat with potage."

⁴ For clothing.

122. GRANT by Ricardus de Waledene, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Reginald de la Hale and Isabel his wife, of "unam purpresturam¹ terre arabilis cum pertinentiis que jacet apud la Cnolle² inter regalem viam que ducit de Radyng versus Meydenhuth ex parte boriali et campum qui dicitur Denesfeld³ ex parte australi".

Dated: Hurley, Vig. of SS. Peter and Paul [28th June].
27 Edw. I [1299].

Seal missing.

¹ Purpresturam = an encroachment; hence, an enclosure.

² La Cnolle = Knowl Hill.

³ Great Dean Field is a part of Bartlett's Farm near Knowl Hill, south of the London and Bath road. Tithe App. gives it as arable, 43 acres 28 perches.

123. INSPEXIMUS and confirmation by Walter, Abbot, and the convent of Westminster, of the following assignment [made 3rd February, 1300] by Richard de Waledene, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, "ad vesturam quindecim monachorum in conventu nostro de Hurle existentium centum solidos argenti annui redditus Abbate et conventu

de Waledene [Walden, co. Essex] singulis annis percipiendos, et centum solidos annui redditus quos fratres hospitalis Jerusalem London, per manus Thesaurarii sui, qui pro tempore fuerit, nobis solvere consueverunt, qui per manus fratris ad vesture et municionis dicti conventus de Hurle custodiam deputatuo singulis terminis et locis recipiantur. Ita quod unusquisque supradictorum quindecim monachorum habeat annuatim de predicto redditu ad vesturam suam memoratam decem solidos preter solitam et debitam dicte vesture et municionis provisionem, necnon anniversarii Ricardi quondam Prioris Hurle, et aliorum predecessorum nostrorum," namely, "decimas garbarum de dominicis terris quondam Roberti de Waltham et redditum annuum de molendino fullonum de Hurle, et viginti solidos annui redditus de Stanes cum quatuor solidis annui redditus de Hertfeld, et tribus solidis annualis redditus de Henle. Et si contingat aliquem vel aliquos de gremio ecclesie Westmonasterii per dominum Abbatem ad nos transmitti ex quacunque causa tempore successivo, volumus et concedimus quod completo primo anno adventus eius seu eorum cameram suam sicut ceteri confratres nostri Hurl' plenarie percipiant non obstante numero quindecim monachorum superius determinato vel ordinatione supradicta."

Dated : Westminster, Wed. bef. Annunciation [25th March], 1300.

With four seals, green wax, viz., of the Abbot; the Abbey of Westminster; and of the Prior of Hurley, the latter having a counterseal representing a tonsured figure holding two keys.

124. GRANT by Richard, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to William de la Grenedoune, faber, of a plot of ground "in quodam angulo¹ sub gardino nostro juxta viam communem que dirigit de villa de Hurleye predicta, usque ad molendina² nostra que sita sunt super Tamisiam, que quidem via vocatur Melnestrete"³

Test. : Geoffrey de Hulle, William le Frenssh, John Beudouz.

Temp. Edw. I [*circ.* 1300].

¹ This "corner near our garden" now forms the extreme north-west angle of Temple Park.

² Hurley Mills.

³ "Mill Lane" is close to the "corner".

125. GRANT by William de la Dene to William Othyn, of a plot of land in Hurley, near the King's highway leading from Hurley to Wargrave.

Dated : Hurley, Morr. of St. Valentine [15th February], 29 Edw. I [1301].

126. REMISSION by the Prior of Hurley to Richard Jordan of all trespasses and injuries committed against him in his office of Woodward, Steward, and Collector of rents, and the said Richard renounces all claims on the Prior "*occasione¹ mense sue, liberacionis detente seu robe*".

Dated : Vig. of St. Hilary [11th January], 31 Edw. I [1302].

¹ "On account of his table [food, etc.], and of the delivery of his robe which has been kept back from him."

127. GRANT by Richard de Waledene, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Agnes, fil. quondam Johannis Potard, of the tenement in Hurley which the said John held during his life.

Dated : Palm Sunday [15th April], 30 Edw. I [1302].

With Priory seal in white wax.

128. POWER OF ATTORNEY from Peter le Stedeman and Robert le Stedeman to Dom. Jordan de Wythersfeud, to receive 100*s*. from the Prior and convent of Hurley for a fine made with them for trespass committed by the Prior's men against them.

Dated : "apud Lauenham", F. of St. Mark [25th April] 30 Edw. I [1302].

129. GRANT by the Prior and convent of Hurley to Ralph ———,¹ of sufficient underwood from their wood at Hurley ; and should they fail to supply it after two days' notice by him of his wants, he is at liberty to take it himself without let or hindrance from the Prior and Convent.

Dated : Hurley, S. bef. F. of St. George [23rd April], 31 Edw. I [1303].

¹ Name illegible.

130. GRANT by Frater Ricardus de Waledene, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Reginald de la Hale and John his son, of an enclosure [purprestura] of arable land lying between La Cnolle¹ and Denesfeld.

Dated : Hurley, Fr. bef. F. of the Nat. of the B. V. Mary [8th September], 31 Edw. I [1303].

With Priory (second) seal in yellow wax.

¹ Knowl Hill.

Cf. No. 122.

131. GRANT by Richard de Waledene, Prior of Hurley, for himself and successors, to the convent of Hurley, of the whole rent of the tenement of John Tegulator¹ yearly "pro vestura eiusdem conventus", until his rents of Stanes and Stanewell [Staines and Stanwell, co. Midd.], granted to John de Wanlok for his life, revert to the said Prior or his successors : in witness whereof the seals of William, Abbot of Westminster, and the common seal of Hurley Priory, have been affixed.

Dated : F. of Translation of St. Edward [13th October], 1303.

The two seals (broken, but now mended) are still attached.

¹ Tiler.

132. GRANT by Richard de Waledene, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to John de Wyntercote, of land in La Vortye, Langcroft, etc., in Hurley.

Dated: Morr. of St. Thomas Ap. [22nd December],
32 Edw. I [1303].

With Priory seal, white wax, broken.

133. BOND from William de Kengham to Hurley Priory, in half a mark of annual rent, for a plot of ground and house built upon it near La Hose, in Hurley.

Dated: Vig. of the Annunciation [24th March], 32 Edw. I [1304].

134. GRANT by Richard, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to William de Kengham, "pincerne¹ nostro", of a plot of land, with house upon it [in Hurley.]

Dated: T. bef. F. of Annunciation [25th March], 32 Edw. I [1304.]

With Priory seal, white wax, defaced.

¹ Butler.

135, 136. COVENANT and counterpart, made on Sunday bef. F. of St. Gregory [12th March], 32 Edw. I [1304], between the Prior and convent of Hurley and Ralph de Hurle, whereby the Priory grants to the latter all their land "quam habuerunt de terra Clemence in campo dicti Radulphi qui dicitur Northcroft cum communa pasture", in exchange for four acres of arable land, two of which lie "juxta Dommere supra viam regalem", and two lie "sub via".

Dated: F. of Annunciation [25th March], 1304.

With Priory seal, broken at top and bottom.

137. GRANT by Richard le Calewe to Ralph atte Lake, of half an acre of land in Ruycroft, in Hurley.

Dated: Th. bef. F. of St. Luke [18th October], 32 Edw. I, [1304].

138. LEASE by Alexander de Neuport, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Peter, son of Hubert de Eynho, of all

tithes, great and small, arising from the demesnes of the lords of Eynho [Aynho, co. Northampton] for his life, at a yearly rent of 40 *sh.* payable at Hurley. In default thereof he is bound "in viginti solidis subsidio Terre Sancte, et etiam fabrice Lincolnensi in viginti solidis, pro quolibet termino non observato".

Dated : F. of St. James [25th July], 33 Edw. I [1305].

Endorsed : "Quia Petrus de Eynho . . . non habuit sigillum proprium de nomine suo sed quoddam sigillum cuius superscriptio est Michael Archangele apposuit et in consignatione huius scripti testes fuerunt presentes videlicet William de Marcheria rector de Zeshamstede" [Easthampstead], et alii.

139. GRANT by Juliana, fil. Jurdani Albyn de Hurleya, to the church of St. Peter¹ of Hurleye, and to Dom. Adam, perpetual vicar of the said church, of an acre of land in the fields, of Hurley "super viam Regiam que ducit de Henleye versus Maydenhuth", at a rent of one penny to the capital lords of the fec, "ita tamen quod predictus Dominus Adam et successores sui septem missas annuatim pro anima mea et animabus omnium fidelium et defunctorum teneantur celebrare".

Dated : Fr. bef. F. of St. Eadmund, King and M. [22nd November], 34 Edw. I [1305].

¹ This is a curious confusion. The church of our Hurley was not* dedicated to St. Peter, but the position of the land on the king's way from Maidenhead to Henley proves that it could not have been Earley, by Reading ; and the witnesses, "John Beauduz, Richard Jurdan", point to its being our Hurley which is meant.

* Westminster Abbey, of which Hurley Priory was a cell, *is* dedicated to St. Peter. Hence, perhaps, the muddle made by the scribe.

140. GRANT by Richard le Calewe to Reginald de la Hale and John his son, of a croft called La Westcroft, lying "juxta la Smalestret apud La Cnolle¹ in parochia de

Hurle"; at a yearly rent, for the next 18 years, of a grain of wheat.

Dated: Hurley, Morr. of St. Thomas's Day [22nd December], 34 Edw. I [1305].

¹ Knowl Hill.

141. GRANT by John de Hurle to Robert le Grymme, and Agnes, dau. of Robert le Blake de la Penne, of a plot of land at Byrechhurst,¹ "prout sepibus vivis undique est inclusa", at an annual rent of eighteen pence.

Dated: Hurle, Fr. bef. F. of Pur. of B. V. Mary [2nd February], 34 Edw. I [1306].

¹ Birchets Green.

142. ACQUITTANCE and absolution from Henry de Blontisdone, "illustris Regis Anglie Elemosinarius", to Alexander de Neuport, Prior of Hurley, in his capacity as "receptor et administrator denariorum et aliorum bonorum meorum tam de parsonatibus quam prebendis et aliis possessionibus meis in diversis locis proveniencium", from rendering any accompt of the same, "pro laudabili obsequio suo michi".

Dated: Westminster [2nd July, 1306].

With small seal.

143. GRANT by Ralph de Hurle to John his brother of that "purprestura", with house built on it, near Byrechhurst,¹ extending "ab exitu curie Willelmi de Mortone" to Thomas Hardyng's messuage.

Dated: Hurley, Oct. of Michs. 34 Edw. I [1306].

¹ Birchets Green.

144. GRANT by Thomas, fil. et her. Willelmi de la Dene de Hurle, to William le Juvene, of Wargrave, of a plot of land near the King's road leading to Wargrave.

Dated: T. aft. F. of St. Peter in Cathedra [22nd February], 35 Edw. I [1307].

145. GRANT by Thomas de la Dene de Hurle, fil. et heres quondam Willelmi de la Dene, to William Othin and Cristina his wife, of a plot of arable land [in Hurley], at a yearly rent for the first 100 years of twelve pence, and afterwards of half a mark.

Dated : Hurley, 2nd April, 35 Edw. I [1307].

146. GRANT by Robert de Hurle to Hugh, fil. Radulphi Bernard, for a silver mark, of an acre of arable land in Westfeld, in Hurley,

Test. : Geoffrey le Franceys, Jordan Reyner, William Figulus, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

147. GRANT by Simon Albin to Dom. Simon de Cocham, clericus, of a messuage in Hurley, extending from Bike-
mere¹ "usque ad magnam placeam predictae ville, sicut per metas et vivam² hayam circa dictum messuagium crescentem continetur".

Test. : William de Ho, clericus ; John le Cu, Adam de quercu, Thomas de Magna Merlaua, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ Fields in Lee Farm, arable and grass, of 72 acres 2 roods 17 perches in all, are known as Bigmoor (Tithe App.)

² Quick-set hedge.

148. GRANT by Jordan, fil. Simonis Albyn, to Ralph, fil. Willelmi de Medmenham, of half an acre of meadow land in Hurley, lying in Middilmad, between the monks' meadow and Reginald le Botiller's meadow, extending "a fossa dictorum monachorum usque ad Tamisiam".

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Theobald Marescallus de Hurle, Reginald Pincerna de eadem, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

149. GRANT by Jordan, son of Symon Albyn to Ralph, son of William de Medmenham, of half an acre of land in

the meadow called Middilmade, in Hurley, "inter pratum monacorum de Hurle in orientali parte et pratum Reginaldi le Botiler in occidentali parte et se extendit in longitudine a fossa dictorum monacorum usque ad Tamisiam", at a rent of one penny at Christmas.

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Teobald Marescallus, Richard Jordan, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

150. GRANT by Jordan Albin to Hurley Priory, in pure and perpetual alms, of an acre of arable land in Hurley.

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebrec, Richard Armiger, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

151. GRANT by Jurdan Albyn to the Prior and convent of Hurley, of an acre of land lying in Westfelde, in Hurley.

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebrok, Reginald Pincerna.

Temp. Edw. I.

152. QUIT-CLAIM by Jordan Albyn, of all his right and claim to a house with curtilage and an acre of land in Hurley, late belonging to Henry Kulbell, and concerning which there has been a suit in the King's Court between him and Hurley Priory.

Test.: Ralph de Hurle, William Franceys, John le Ku, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

153. GRANT by Jordan Albyn to Thomas de Wethampstede and Marjery his wife, of an acre of arable land "in parte occidentali ville de Hurley", at an annual rent of one halfpenny at Michaelmas.

Test.: Ralph de Hurle, William de Kenghamp, John Beauduz, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

154. GRANT by Alice, dau. of Alan de Blipe, to Alexander, cocus, of an acre of land in the south field of Hurley, at a rose rent.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebrok, Hugh de la Dene, Reginald le Botiler.

Temp. Edw. I.

155. GRANT by Alice, fil. Alani de Lond', to Alexander, fil. et her. Henrici Coci de Hurlee, of land at Brodappeldure, one head extending "ad vicum qui vocatur Hudestret", and the other "super terram de Chadehangre".¹

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Jurdan Albin, John, vicar of Hurley.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ Channy Grove, Hurley.

156. GRANT by John le Calewe to Dom. Hanricus, capellanus, fil. Simonis de la Graue de Parva Watham, of an acre "et paulo plus" of his land at Little Waltham, in Hurley, viz., in Hesperuck-croft, extending from Thuuel-heker to Homcroft, and a piece in Ruycroft.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, William de la le, Richard de la gate, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

157. GRANT by Richard le Calewe to Nicholas de Graua, of a messuage called Suthhache [in Hurley].

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lullebrok, Geoffrey Bulepanne, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

158. GRANT by John le Cliudene to William le Franceys, of a piece of arable land lying between the grove of the Prior of Hurley, called Chadehangre,¹ and the land of John del Hek, in Hurley.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, William le Lollebroc, Hugh de la Dene, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ Channy Grove.

159. GRANT by Reginald Cres to Hurley Priory, of all his land in Overcroft, an acre of land in le Homcroft, another piece of land near Samareslond [in Hurley] "ad emendacionem et sustentacionem sacristie".

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebroc, Reginald Pincerna, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

160. GRANT by Godfrey de la Dene to Godfrey Camerarius, of a messuage in Hurley.

Test. : Helyas de Plessetis, William Marchall, Symon Albin, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

161. GRANT by William de la Dene to John de Wyntercote, of that tenement which John Puniaunt sometime held from Hugh, the said William's father [in Hurley].

Test. : Robert de Hurle, John, vicar of Hurley, John Brun, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

162. GRANT by Richard le Esquier to Henry Cocus, of an acre of land in Hurley, lying in Beringeresfeld, in exchange for an acre in Estfeld, having "unum capud usque ad Severne et aliud capud versus Monckesdon,"¹ at a rent of one halfpenny.

Test. : Jordan le Forester, Hugh de la Hulle, William Dimars, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ 36 acres 1 rood 12 perches (arable [Tithe App.] and wood), now grass and wood, enclosed in Temple Park, south of Witney's Lane, Marlow Road.

163. GRANT by Richard le Squyer, of Hurley, to Reginald Fullo, of land in Hurley, extending to the King's road leading to Henley.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebroc, Theobald Marescallus, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

164. GRANT by Richard le Squyer to Reginald Fullo, of land in Hurley, near the King's highway, leading to Henley.

Test. : Theobald Marscallus, Reginald Pincerna, Jordan Albyn, Robert de Hurle, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

165. GRANT by Richard le Esquier to Cristina Nort, of a messuage with croft in Hurley.

Test. : Jordan le Forester, Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lullebroc, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

166. GRANT by Richard le Esquier de Hurley to William le Hore, of that land in Hurley late belonging to Walter Dismars.

Test. : Robert de Hurley, Hugh de Lullebroc, William le Franceis, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

167. GRANT by Richard le Esquier de Hurle, to William, fil. Johannis le Hore de Kylham [Culham], of an acre of land in Hurley, in a field called Beringeresfeld, at a yearly rent of a clove of gillyflower [unum clavum gariofli].

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lullebrec, Richard Jordan, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

168. GRANT by William le Hore de Culham to Hurley Priory, of an acre of land in Hurley, in the field called "Estfild super Buckenhull."

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lullebrok, Richard le Equier, Teobald Marescallus.

Temp. Edw. I.

169. GRANT by William le Hore, of Culham, to John fil. Walteri Dymars, of that land in Hurley which Walter Dymars formerly sold to Richard le Squier, at a yearly rent of a clove of gillyflower [clavum galiofri], at Christmas.

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lullebrok, William de Ho, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

170. GRANT by Agnes, fil. Alexandri Fabri de Waltham, quondam uxor Henrici Godwine, to Walter, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of a messuage and house in Hurley, "ad augmentacionem et sustentacionem sacristie ecclesie predicte."

Test.: Reginald Fullo, Reginald Pincerna, William Beauduz, Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lullebroc.

Temp. Edw. I.

171. GRANT by Geoffrey le Franceis, fil. Roberti de Hurleye, to Hurley Priory, "et precipue ad supplendos sacristie defectus," of four acres of land, extending to Standune, Westfeld and Cocsete.

Test.: Richard, vicar of Hurley, Osbert de Hurle, William Marescallus, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

172. GRANT by William le Franceis to John Tegulator¹ in free marriage with Alice, his daughter, of lands in Hurley, in Homcroft, and in a croft which is called "Le Hulle," near Frilistret.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebroc, John, tunc vicarius de Hurle.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ Tiler.

173. GRANT by Osbert, fil. Agnetis la Franceyse, to Robert Cole and Joan his wife, of that messuage which the grantor bought from Gilbert de Roscompe in Henley, "extendens a via regia usque ad rivulum more de Bagerugge;" at a yearly rent of 12*d.*, payable to Hurley Priory.

Test. : Jacobus Calvus, Hugh de Kocsete, Thomas Dreu, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

174. GRANT by William de la Hale de Hurleya to Nicholas de Graua de Hurle, of an acre of land "per perticam¹ Baronis," in Hurley, "apud Parwa Wautham;" at a rose rent.

Test. : Hugh de Lullebrok, Hanricus de Graua, capellanus, Geoffrey Thedred, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ The "pertica" or perch varied in length in different places, and the "pertica Baronis" (of which there is no mention in Ducange's *Glossarium*) was probably the perch recognised at the Court Baron of Hurley.

175. GRANT by Richard de Hurley to Dom. Theobald, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all the service of William Putbred.¹

Test. : Richard de la Strode, Walter Marescallus, Simon Aubin, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ William Putbred, probably William Th'utbred or Outbred.

176. GRANT by Robert de Hurley to Hugh, fil. Radulphi Bernard, of Hurley, of three acres of arable land in

Hurley, lying in Donuellde, near the Priory land, and in Nuperecroft.

Temp. Edw. I.

177. GRANT by Robert de Hurle to Richard, fil. Ricardi de Brimpton, of a plot of land in Hurley and "cursum aque venientis et cadentis de vivario meo super terram et tenementum dicti Ricardi."

Test. : Jordan le Forester, Walter Dimars, Ralph Tholi, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

178. GRANT by Robert de Hurley to Mag. Robert de Certeseye and Lucy, Robert's daughter, and the heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten, of all that land in Hurley sometime held by Cristina de la Stompe.

Test. : Hugh de Lollebrok, William de Wergrave, clericus, John Brun, Theobald Marescallus, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

179. GRANT by Robert de Hurle to Richard le Esquier, of that land which lies "in angulo del Wodefeld cum grava adiacente," in Hurley.

Test. : Jordan le Forester, Hugh de la Hulle, Hugh de Lullebroc, Ralph Toli, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

180. GRANT by Robert de Hurle to Richard le Esquier, of a plot of land near the latter's house, extending to the common of Hurley.

Test. : Walter Dismars, Hugh de Lullebrok, William Franceys, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

181. GRANT by Robert de Hurle to Richard le Esquier, of a plot of land lying at Birchehurst,¹ in Hurley.

Test.: Walter Dismars, Philip Blund, Hugh de Lullebrok, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ Birchets Green.

182. GRANT by Thomas de Hurleya, clericus, to Simon de Cocham, clericus, "pro servicio suo," of seven acres of land in Hurley lying near Severne,¹ Lauerchemere, Standone, Cocsete, etc.

Test.: Robert de Hurleya, William de Ho, John le Cu, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ "The Severn" was enclosed in Temple Park in 1876.

183. SALE by William, fil. Galfridi de Hurleya, to Simon de Cocham, clericus, of eighteenpence annual rent for certain lands in Hurley.

Test.: William de Meidenhuse, William Tury, William de la Le, William de Ho, clericus, William de Quercu, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

184. QUIT-CLAIM by Henry Keynel and Alice de Camera, his wife, to Richard, fil. Ricardi de Brompton.

Test.: Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lullebroc, Ralph Toly, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

185. GRANT by Henry Keynel to Richard, fil. Ric. de Brimptune, of a quarter of an acre of land in Hurnley lying on La Lehe.¹

Test.: Jordan Forestarius, Walter Dismars, Philip le Blund, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ Near Channy Grove.

186. GRANT by Henry Kaynel and Alice de Camera, his wife, to Hurley Priory of an annual rent of 1*d.* from land

"in la Eldedene", extending "super la Windgate" [? in Hurley], "ad augmentacionem et emendacionem sacristie".

Test. : Hugh de Lollebroc, Theobald Marescallus, Hugh de la Dene.

Temp. Edw. I.

187. GRANT by Henry Caynel and Alice his wife, dau. of Geoffrey de Camera, to John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of a yearly rent of fourpence from 2 acres of a field called Wrđi [? The Worthy] in Hurley. "Et ut hec donacio nostra, concessio et presentis carte confirmacio rata et stabilis permaneat presenti scripto sigilla nostra apposumus et super altare beate Marie¹ et Sancti Leonardi² scriptum istud optulimus".

Test. : Robert de Hurleya, Hugh de Lollebrok, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

The seals are missing.

¹ St. Mary's, Hurley.

² St. Leonard was the Patron Saint of prisoners.

188. QUIT-CLAIM by William Keyngham to John——, of nine acres of land which he has "ex commissione Willelmi le Hore, et Emme uxoris eius", and which the said John bought of them in fee.

Test. : William de Hore, Robert de la Wyk, William de Schorteford, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

With small seal, Virgin and Child in niche.

189. GRANT by John, fil. Nicholai de la More de Braye, to Dom. John, Prior, and the convent of Hurleie, of seven acres of land in Hurley, whereof one extends "in Sauerne",¹ another "in Lauerkemere", a third lies "juxta Standune", a fourth "juxta terram sacristie ecclesie de Hurley", a fifth "versus quercum inter terram sacristie et terram Johannis Fabri", a sixth "in transverso itineris quod extendit versus

domum Hugonis de la Dene", and the seventh "sub Cocsete".
Rent, "unum clawum gariophili [a clove].

Test. : Jordan Forestarius, Hugh de Lollebrok, William de Sorteworte, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ "The Severn" is now in Temple Park.

190. GRANT by Cristine North to the Prior and convent of Hurley, of a messuage with a croft in Hurley.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lolebrok, Hugh de la Dene, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

191. GRANT by John de Quercu, perpetuus vicarius de Hurle, to Reginald Fullo de Hurle and Margery his wife, of his tenement which he bought from Gervase Spragan in Hurley, at an annual rent of eightpence payable to the Prior of Hurley, and to the said John a clove of gillyflower.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebroc, Theobald Marescallus, Jordan Albyn.

A beautiful (small) seal, representing the vicar robed and standing at the altar, about to consecrate the chalice.

Inscription : IOHIS VICARII HURLE.

Temp. Edw. I.

192. GRANT by Gervase, fil. Ricardi Spragan, to John de Quercu, perpetuus vicarius de Hurle, of a messuage with enclosure, etc., in Hurley ; to hold at a rent of a pair of gloves or one penny at Midsummer.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebroc, Theobald Marescallus, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

193. GRANT by Thomas de la Strode to Walter, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, in pure and perpetual alms, of an annual rent of sixteen pence due from Jordan Albin for a messuage in Hurley.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lolebroc, Hugh de la Dene, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

194. GRANT by Thomas de la Strode de Rumeham¹ to William le Hore de Culham, of an acre of land in Hurley, in Berengeresfeld.

Test. : Hugh de Lollebroc, Richard le Equier (*sic*), William le Fraunces, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ Remenham.

195. GRANT by William Unwyne, of Hurley, to Geoffrey, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of a yearly rent of three pence due from Richard de la Strode, and William Franceys "ad sustentacionem et emendacionem unius lampadis coram altari beati Marie virginis et sancti Leonardi¹ Abbatis ardentis, scilicet quamdiu missa de sancta Maria erit celebranda".

Test. : John, vicar of Hurley ; Hugh de Lollebroch, Henry Pincerna, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

¹ St. Leonard was the Patron Saint of prisoners.

196. GRANT by John Cocus to Dom. Galfridus, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, in pure and perpetual alms, of a yearly rent of one penny, due from Richard de la Strode for land in Hurley, "ad sustentacionem et emendacionem unius lampadis coram altari beate Marie Virginis et beati Leonardi confessoris ardentis scilicet quamdiu missa de Sancta Maria erit celebranda".

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebroc, Hugh de la Dene, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

197. GRANT by John Cook to Hurley Priory of a yearly rent of threepence, due from John le Harpour and Richard

de la Strode from land in Hurley, for the maintenance of a lamp burning before the Altar of the Blessed Virgin and St. Leonard during the celebration of mass.

Test. : Dom. John, vicar of Hurley ; Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebrok.

Temp. Edw. I.

For the full text of this Deed, *v.* Appendix.

198. QUIT-CLAIM by William, fil. Willelmi Bubbe de Istehamstede, to Geoffrey, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of his whole tenement which he formerly held from the Priory in Istehamstede [Easthampstead].

Test. : William de Lollebroch, William de Maydenhutte, William de Medmecham, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

199. GRANT by William, fil. Willelmi Bubbe de Yesamestede [Easthampstead] to Gilibert, fil. Ode de Yesamestede, of land in Suthparroc-croft, Northcroft, La Benhahe-croft, Grete-croft, etc. [in Easthampstead].

Test. : William de Cristeshulle, Richard Aylward, John Kibe, etc.

Temp. Edw. I.

200. GRANT by Robert de Hurle to Richard, fil. Ricardi de Brumpton, of a plat of land in Hurley, to hold at a rent of "unum clavem gilofriatum" [*sc.*, a clove of gillyflower].

Test. : Hugh de Lullebroc, Walter Dimars, Ralph Tholi.

Temp. Edw. I-II.

201. GRANT by Jordan Albin to Reginald de la Hale and John his son, of an annual rent due from Merota Lyoulf de Lemenstre and John her brother, for a house and curtilage held for their lives in Hurley.

Test. : Ralph de Hurle, John de la Grave, John Bolepanne, etc.

Dated : Hurley, W. in Easter Week [2nd April],
2 Edw. II [1309].

202. GRANT by Alexander de Neuport, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Reginald de la Hale, of a messuage in Hurley.

Dated : 15th May, 2 Edw. II [1309].

With Priory seal, white wax (rubbed and chipped).

203. GRANT by William de Hurle to Henry atte Boure, of land with house upon it at Byrechurst¹ in Hurley.

Dated : S. aft. Xmas, 3 Edw. II [1309].

¹ Birchets Green.

204. GRANT by John atte Knolle de Hurle, clericus, to Agnes and Alice, daughters of William le Bokore, of West Wycoumbe, of two messuages in Hurley.

Dated : W. aft. F. of St. Luke [18th October], 4 Edw. II [1310].

205, 206. LEASE, and counterpart, from Amice de la Dene, widow, to Reginald de la Hale, of all her dower land in that whole tenement which formerly belonged to William de la Dene, her husband.

Dated : S. bef. F. of St. Gregory [12th March], 4 Edw. II [1311].

207. GRANT by Richard le Kalewe to John de la Graue, of a plot of land lying in Whetcroft [in Hurley].

Dated : "apud la Knolle in parochia de Hurle", S. aft. Ascension Day [23rd May], 4 Edw. II [1311].

208. GRANT by Henry, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Richard Bercarius, fil. Ricardi Bercarii de Hurlee, of free pannage "in commune Bosco nostro de Hurlee cum porcis

suis de proprio nutrimento suo tempore pannagii", at a rent of twelve pence.

Dated : Fr. aft. F. of St. Botulph [17th June], 4 Edw. II [1311].

209. QUIT-CLAIM by Geoffrey de Hurley to Hurley Priory, of his right in the wood of the Priory at Hurley.

Test. : Johannes, clericus de Remenham ; Reginald de la Hale, etc.

Dated : F. of St. Matthew [21st September], 4 Edw. II [1311].

Injured by damp.

210. QUIT-CLAIM by Richard le Calewe to Reginald de la Hale, of a croft called La Westcroft in Hurley.

Dated ; Sat. bef. Michaelmas Day, 6 Edw. II [1312].

211. GRANT by Alice la Tyclere, of Hurley, to John le Tyler her son, of her whole tenement in Hurley.

Test. : Ralph de Hurle, Gilbert Saddok, etc.

Dated : S. bef. F. of St. Peter in cathedra [22nd February], 6 Edw. II [1313].

212. QUIT-CLAIM by Nicholaa, fil. quondam Willelmi Franceis de Hurle, to Alice la Tyghelere her sister, of that tenement in Hurley which belonged to William Franceis their father.

Test. : John de Fienles,¹ Ralph de Hurle, Gilbert Saddok, John au Dentz, etc.

Temp. Edw. II [*circ.* 1313].

¹ Feenes.

213. CONVEYANCE, by fine, from William Maydenstan, of Waltham St. Laurence, to Richard de Babeham and Alexander his brother, of a messuage in Hurley.

Dated : Easter Term, 6 Edw. II [1313].

214. ORDINANCE of Henry, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, that the custom observed at Westminster Abbey "cuius cella et filia ecclesia de Hurle existit", of continuing to a defunct brother, for a year after death, "unum corrogium¹ monachale cotidie in refectorio et cameram suam de camerario", as though he were still alive, in order to provide for a year's masses for his soul, to be celebrated by a secular priest, shall be similarly observed at Hurley Priory.

Dated : xvii Kal. Jan. [16th December], 1313.

With Priory seal, in green wax, broken.

¹ "Corody signifies a sum of money or allowance of meat, drink and clothing due to the King from an Abbey, or other house of Religion, whereof he was founder, towards the sustentation of such a one of his servants as he thought fit to bestow it upon." (Jacob's *New Law Dict.*).

215. LEASE by John de Wenlock to Thomas de Langford, of a yearly rent of 20s. in Stanewelle [Stanwell, co. Midd.], granted to him by the Prior and convent of Hurley, as a pension for his lifetime.

Dated : Stanes [Staines], Tu. aft. Michaelmas Day, 8 Edw. II [1314].

216. ACQUITTANCE, from the Abbot and convent of Abingdon, collectors of the tenth (granted by the clergy towards relief of the King and realm of England against the Scots) in the archdeaconries of Berks and Wilts, to the Abbot of Westminster for his temporalities in Zeshamstede [Easthampstead] in the deanery of Reading.

Dated : Abingdon, xiii Kal. Mart. [16th February], 1315.

217. QUIT-CLAIM by John le Dent, "tingtor"¹ de Hurle, to Reginald de la Hale and Merrota his wife, of a house, with land adjoining, in Hurley.

Dated : Mor. of F. of St. Ambrose [5th April], 8 Edw. II [1315].

¹ Tincter = a dyer.

218. QUIT-CLAIM by Ralph atte Lake, to John de la Graue, of a messuage formerly belonging to Hugh Bythefure, "apud le Cnolle¹ et scitum est in Lutelwaltham² proximum inter perpountstrete et le Cnollecroft."

Dated : Hurley, 10th April, 8 Edw. II [1315].

¹ Knowl Hill.

² Waltham St. Laurence.

219. GRANT by John Dymars to Hurley Priory, of pasture in Hurley "juxta fossatum de Bikemere,"¹ in exchange for a house in Bechamtone, in Hurley, which sometime belonged to Alice le Meleward.

Dated : Hurley, S. bef. F. of St. Gregory [12th March], 9 Edw. II [1316].

¹ Big Moor Meadow (5 acres 3 roods 21 perches (Tithe App.) is bounded by a ditch, near Shepherd's Lane.

220. GRANT by Ralph ate Lake de Hurle to Reginald de la Hale, of his whole tenement at La Knolle in Hurley.

Dated : S. beg. F. of St. Bartholomew [24th August], 11 Edw. II [1317].

221. GRANT by Richard le Taylour to William ———, of a messuage in Hurley.

Dated : — aft. F. of St. Faith [6th October], 11 Edw. II [1317].

Mutilated.

222. GRANT by Geoffrey de Hurle to Robert le Grymme and Agnes his wife, of a plat of land in a new "purpresura,"¹ between the common² wood of the Priory of Hurley and the "grava"³ of the said Geoffrey, one part extending to Le Bournehacche and the other to the road leading to the house of William de Morton.

Test. : Gilbert Saddok, Robert Lollebrok, John de la Grave, John de Wytheneye, etc.

Dated : Hurley, Wed. aft. F. of All Saints [1st November],
11 Edw. II [1317].

¹ "Purprespura" = encroachment, and hence an enclosure.

² Given in exchange for Covent Garden by Henry VIII in 1536 to Westminster Abbey.

³ "Grava" = grove or croft.

223. GRANT by Richard de Hurle to Isabel, wife of Geoffrey de Hurle, and to Amiscia, daughter of the said Geoffrey, and the heirs of her body, of all the land which he holds by feoffment from Geoffrey de Hurle, in Hurley, "prouit certe mete et bunde undique condonant et purportant."

Test. : William Jurdan, John de la Bere, Reginald in-le-Hale, etc.

Dated : Hurley, Sun. the feast of — Bp.,¹ 11 Edw. II [1317-1318].

With small seal.

¹ Name of Bishop illegible.

224. ACQUITTANCE by Roger Vachel to Hurley Priory, for a payment of ten shillings, in which the Priory was bound to him "ratione annui feodi¹ viginti solidorum."

Dated : Reading, Wed. bef. F. of St. Laurence [2nd February], 11 Edw. II [1318].

¹ Rent.

225. QUIT-CLAIM by Geoffrey de Hurle to Richard de Hurle, of land in Hurley, held by Joan de Maubusson for her life by grant from Eadulph de Hurle, her late husband.

Dated : S. bef. F. of Purification [2nd February], 11 Edw. II [1318].

226. GRANT by Geoffrey de Hurle of all his land, "et le Hangengegrave cum haycis et cum omnibus pertinenciis suis que extendunt se in longitudine inter Skynnesput in oxcident' et regiam viam que ducit versus London'

orient," with other land in Estfeld, Westfeld, Nythercroft and Westmede, all in Hurley.

Dated : S. bef. F. of Purification [2nd February], 11 Edw. II [1318].

227. MARRIAGE settlement of William, son of Geoffrey de Hurle and Cristine, dau. of Matilda Oude, by which the said Geoffrey settles on them his lands and tenements in Hurley.

Test. : Dom. Ricardus de Vlsefeld, Decanus ecclesie sancti Martini Magni, London' ; Nicholas de Godalmyng, notarius publicus, Peter de Coumbe.

Dated : apud Henton [Hinton-Waldrige, co. Berks], Mid-Lent Sunday, 11 Edw. II [2nd April, 1318].

228. RELEASE by Richard de Hurle of his claim to the reversion of a messuage and curtilage in Hurley after the death of Joan de Maubussun, and of the wife and daughters of Geoffrey de Hurle.

Dated : F. of St. Swithun [2nd July], 11 Edw. II [1318].

229. GRANT by Joan la Forestare, widow of John de Fyenles,¹ of White Waltham, to Reginald atte Hale and Merota his wife, of a messuage with curtilage at La² Knolle, [in Hurley].

Dated : Hurley, Th. bef. Whitsunday [27th May], 12 Edw. II [1319].

With small seal of arms.

¹ Feenes.

² Knowl Hill.

230. QUIT-CLAIM by John atte Sherde de Braye and Cristina Bulepanne his wife, to Reginald de la Hale, of a tenement in Hurley, sometime held by John Bulepanne, Cristina's father.

Dated : Oct. of Trinity [1st June] 13 Edw. II [1320].

231. GRANT by Geoffrey de Hurleye to Anabilla his daughter, of an annual rent, a croft called Brodecroft, and a croft in Crockeresrowe, one head of which lies on Le Aldeheyes, and the other in Le Heyestret, all in Hurley.

Test.: William Jurdan, John de Cruchefeld, John de Subenhangre, etc.

Dated: Hurley, T. aft. Transl. of St. Thomas [7th July],
14 Edw. II [1320].

232. GRANT by Geoffrey de Hurle to Joan his daughter, of the land called Clemencefeld,¹ in Hurley, near Crockeresrowe.

Dated: T. aft. Transl. of St. Thomas [7th July] 1320.

¹ Clements field is entered in the Tithe App. as arable, 23 acres 1 rood 27 perches, and is situated on the east side of the Hall Place, "Diana" Avenue.

233. QUIT-CLAIM by Geoffrey de Hurle, frater et heres quondam Radulphi de Hurle, to Hurley Priory, of "rationabile estovarium suum in bosco eorundem prioris et conventus de Hurle ac necessarios usus suos de housbote,¹ heybote,² et ad focum suum et ad competens incrementum ad reparacionem domorum suarum," which his ancestors were accustomed to hold from the Priory.

Dated: Th. a. F. of St. Matthew [21st September] 1320.

¹ "Housbote"=allowance for repair of houses.

² Ditto, for hedges.

234. GRANT by Richard de Coleworth, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Geoffrey de Hurle and Isabel his wife and Amice their daughter, daily of "unum panem album conventualem, unam lagenam cervisie conventualis et unum ferculum leguminis conventuale, et, singulis diebus, Dominicis, Martis et Jovis per annum exceptis in Adventu Domini et a Septuagesima usque ad Pascha et aliis solempnibus ieiuniis, duo fercula carniarum grossarum diversi generis bona et congrua . . . et ceteris diebus Lune,

Mercurii, Veneris et Sabbati duo fercula adeo bona et congrua eiusdem servicii quo monachi in refectorio diebus illis deserviuntur."

Dated : W. aft. Michaelmas, 14 Edw. II [1320].

235. GRANT by Richard, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, that "senescalli¹ nostri die quo visum² franciplegii de Hurle tenuerint, teneant visum Galfridi de Hurle et heredum suorum extra portam prioratus predicti in hameleto de Hurle," the said Geoffrey to pay to the Priory six pence annually at the time the view is held, "vel poturam senescallo, clerico, et bedello eodem die per electionem dictorum prioris et conventus curialiter exhibere."

Dated : W. aft. Michaelmas, 14 Edw. II [1320].

With fragment of Priory seal, white wax.

¹ Stewards.

² In each *decennary* (or *frankpledge*) "the whole neighbourhood or tithing of freemen were mutually pledges for each others' good behaviour". The Sheriffs were bound to "see" that all over fourteen years of age were settled in one *decennary* or another (Jacob's *New Law Dict.*).

236. GRANT by Geoffrey de Hurle that the "una liberacio secundum quod continetur in quodam scripto indentato inter nos inde confecto," granted by Hurley Priory to him, Isabel his wife, and Amice their daughter, shall cease after the death of the two latter.

Dated : Hurley, W. aft. Michaelmas Day, 14 Edw. II [1320].

237. GRANT by Richard de Coleworth, Prior, and the convent of Hurley to Geoffrey de Hurle and Isabella his wife, to Joan Maubusson, relict of Ralph de Hurle, and to Amice, daughter of Geoffrey and Isabel, of a curtilage extending from Westfeld to the King's high way, in Hurley. Rent, a rose at Midsummer.

Dated : Hurle, Wed. aft. F. of St. Michael [29th September], 14 Edw. II [1320].

238. QUIT-CLAIM by Geoffrey de Hurley to Hurley Priory, of all right to the wood of the Priory.

Test.: John, clericus de Remenham, Reginald de la Hale, etc.

Dated : Hurley, F. of St. Leodegarius, Bp. [2nd October], 14 Edw. II [1320].

239. QUIT-CLAIM by Cristina, filia et heres quondam Johannis Bolepanne, to Reginald de la Hale, of a tenement in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, F. of St. Hilary [13th January], 15 Edw. II [1322].

240. GRANT by Richard le Whelare to Matilda, fil. Johannis Bernard, of a plat of land in Hurley, with remainder to John her brother.

Dated : Hurley, F. of Nativity of St. John Bapt. [24th June], 15 Edw. II [1322].

241. QUIT-CLAIM by Robert de Lullebrok to the Prior and convent of Hurley, of two acres and a half of land, etc., in Hurley, purchased by his father, Hugh de Lollebrec, one of the heirs of the late Geoffrey de Camera.

Test.: Henry Pynkeney, John Dismars, Geoffrey de Hurle, etc.

Dated : Th. a. F. of St. Matthew, 21st September [1322].

242. QUIT-CLAIM by Isabel de Medmenham, widow, to Walter, fil. Radulphi de Weghenholte, and Agnes his wife, of all her lands, etc., in Hurley, "et vocantur Hamondeslond de Wydenhey:" together with a rent in Hurley, "in vico qui vocatur Crockaresrew."

Dated : Hurley, Th. aft. All Saints' Day [1st November], 16 Edw. II [1322].

243. GRANT by Joan le Botiler, fil. Willelmi de Kengham, of Hurley, to John Potard, of a certain part of her arable land in Le Hechyngne field in Hurley.

Test. : Geoffrey de Hurle, Robert de Lollebrok, Reginald atte Hale, etc.

Dated : M. aft. F. of St. Martin [11th November] 16 Edw. II [1322].

244. GRANT by Geoffrey de Hurle to Thomas de Appulford, of a yearly rent of two shillings due from a messuage of Richard Godherynges¹ "apud la Crockerewe," in Hurley.

Test. : Robert de Lullebrok, Henry de Pynkeny, Reginald in-le-Hale, etc.

Dated : Hurley, F. of St. Peter ad vincula [1st August], 17 Edw. II [1323].

¹ Good Herrings is a small field, arable, 1 acre 3 roods 28 perches, to the east of the "Diana" Avenue, Hall Place (Tithe App.).

245. GRANT by Geoffrey de Hurlee and Isabel his wife, to Margery their daughter, of "unam gravain integram que vocatur La Heghegrove,"¹ in Hurley, and an annual rent of 12 shillings and two pence due from John le Granger, dictus de Cudinton and others, from land in Hurley.

Dated : 10th October [1323].

¹ High Wood.

246, 247. GRANT, and counterpart, by Richard de Coleworth, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to John, dictus Potard, of eight acres of arable land in Hurley, lying at Okdon, Bykemere field, Donmere, Merkedich field, etc.

Dated : Morr. of F. of St. Luke [19th October], 9 Edw. II [1323].

248, 249. GRANT, and counterpart, by Richard de Coleworth, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Stephen de

Trafford, of 15 acres and a-half of arable land in Hurley, lying in Suddon¹ field and La Leye.²

Dated: T. aft. St. Martin's Day [11th November] 17 Edw. II [1323].

¹ Sutton Field, arable (42 acres 15 perches), extends from the north-east corner of Pudding Hill Plantation to Hodgwell's Lane. (Tithe App.)

² La Leye is represented by two fields (42 acres 5 perches), arable, known as Great Lea and Common Lea, lying along the east boundary of Channy Grove (Chadehanger). Sutton Field and "La Leye" adjoin each other (Tithe App.).

250. GRANT by Stephen de Trafford to Hurley Priory, of the whole crop [vestura] from five and a-half acres of land in La Leye [in Hurley].

Dated: Hurley, F. of Holy Innocents [28th December], 17 Edw. II [1323].

251. GRANT by Geoffrey de Hurle to Christina his daughter, of a yearly rent due from Ralph de Wygenholte and others for tenements in Hurley; to hold at a rose¹ rent.

Dated: Hurley, 8th February, 17 Edw. II [1324].

¹ A rose, a year.

252. GRANT by Henry atte Boure de Hugindene [Hughenden, co. Bucks] to Walter, son of Ralph de Wyghenholte, of a plot of land with houses built thereon, "prout haisi undique includitur," at Byrchurst,¹ in Hurley.

Test.: William Jurdan, John Dymars, Reginald in-le-Hale, etc.

Dated: Hurley, 23rd February, 17 Edw. II [1324].

¹ Birchets Green.

253. GRANT by Joan, dicta la Kyng, de Hurle, to Thomas, dictus le Godegrom, and Cristina his wife, Joan's daughter, of a moiety of her lands in Hurley.

Dated: xv Kal. April [18th March], 17 Edw. II [1324].

254. GRANT by John le Dent to John le Mareschal de Leukenore, of one acre of meadow in le Westmede, in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, Fr. aft. F. of St. Dionysius [9th October], 18 Edw. II [1324].

255. GRANT by Richard Le Taillur,¹ of Hurley, to William his son, of his whole house in Hurley, "in quodam vico qui vocatur Le Hose."

Dated : S. aft. F. of St. Matthias [24th February], 18 Edw. II [1325].

¹ The Tailor.

256, 257. LEASE, and counterpart, by Richard de Colewrth, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to William Gomme, of lands in Hurley, lying at Le Brodehock,¹ etc., extending "ultra viam regiam que ducit apud Henle et abbuttant se unum capud super quandam clausuram Walteri Coci que dicitur le Castel,"² etc.

Dated : Morr. of the Annunciation [26th March], 18 Edw. II [1325].

¹ Fields south-east of the "Black Boy" (Tithe App.).

² Castle Pond is near Pudder's Farm.

258. COVENANT whereby William de Merston agrees with Cristina, widow of William de Hurle, that he will make suit for her for the engrossing of a fine between the said William and Cristina, plaintiffs, and Geoffrey de Hurley, defendant, levied in Michaelmas Term, 12 Edw. II [1318], Cristina paying the said William two marks.

Dated : S. bef. Ascension Day [12th May] 18 Edw. II [1325].

259. GRANT by William de Mortone, of Remenham, to Thomas de Appelford, of all his lands and tenements,

"cum una grava,"¹ at Byrchurst² in Hurley, held formerly by Richard, fil. Ricardi le Squier de Brumpton.

Dated : Hurley, 2nd October, 19 Edw. II [1325].

¹ "Grava" = a grove.

² Birchets Green.

260. GRANT by John le Dent, of Hurley, to John Cocus, jun., of two acres and a half of arable land lying on La Coksete, in Hurley, held by grant from William atte Dene, and an acre of land lying in Beryngeresfeld, in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, S. aft. F. of St. Andrew [30th November], 19 Edw. II [1325].

261. GRANT by John, dictus le Dent, of Hurley, to John Cocus, "fil. et her. quondam Alexandri Coci de Hurle", of an acre of arable land lying "in quodam campo qui vocatur Beryngeresfeld, in longitudine a forrera domini Prioris de Hurle iuxta Le Huthestrete usque ad aliam foreram dicti domini Prioris in La Westfeld".

Test. : Geoffrey de Hurle, Robert Lollebrok, etc.

Dated : Hurley, Fr. aft. F. of St. John, a.p.l. [6th May], 19 Edw. III [1326].

262. FEOFFMENT by William le Mareschal to John his son, and Joan, daughter of Walter Cocus, and the heirs of their bodies, of all his lands, tenements, and reversions in Hurley.

Dated : M. aft. F. of St. Clement [23rd November], 20 Edw. II [1326].

263. GRANT by William le Hore, of Culham, to the Prior and convent of Hurley, in pure and perpetual alms, of an acre of land in Berengeresfeld, in Hurley.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Hugh de Lollebroc, Richard Jordan.

Temp. Edw. II.

264. QUIT-CLAIM by Hugh Bernard to William, fil. Galfridi le Franceis, of a tenement in Hurley.

Test. : Robert de Hurle, Richard de la Strode, Jordan Reiner, etc.

Temp. Edw. II.

265. GRANT by Katerina la Botelere, uxor quondam Johannis Noreys, to Frater Richard de Waleden, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, for the soul of her late husband, the souls of her father, mother, and others, of an acre of land in Hurley "in campo qui vocatur le Estfeld".¹

Temp. Edw. II.

¹ Enclosed in Temple Park, 1876 (Tithe App.).

266. QUIT-CLAIM by John le Brun, of Hurley, to Hurley Priory, in pure and perpetual alms, of all his tenements and possessions in Hurley.

Test. : Jordan Forestarius, William de Medmenham, William Beauduz, etc.

Temp. Edw. II.

267. GRANT by John, fil. et heres Radulfi le Calewe de Parva Watham, to Giles, fil. Simonis le Groef, of an acre of land "per perticam baronis apud paruum Whatham" [Little Waltham, in Hurley], lying in Suthcroft.

Test. : Robert de Hurnleya, Jordan Reiner, Geoffrey Bolepanne, etc.

Temp. Edw. II.

268. GRANT by Alice de Camera to Hugh de Lullebrok of an acre of arable land in Hurley, "in mea crofta que vocatur Homcroft".

Test. : Jordan Forestarius, Yvo de Ellintone, Geoffrey Thedred, etc.

Temp. Edw. II.

269. GRANT by Joan, widow of Robert Cole, to Robert Molendinarius, her brother, of a messuage which she and her husband bought of Osebert le Fraunceys, pelliparius,¹ in Henley, at a rent of a clove of gillyflower to herself, and to Gilbert Roscompe one penny, and to Hurley Priory, fourpence.

Test. : William de Ponte, Hugh de Cocsete, Richard de Eylesbury.

Temp. Edw. II.

¹ Skinner.

270. GRANT by Goda, dau. of Geoffrey le Cornwaleys, of Hurley, widow, to Geoffrey her eldest son, of all that tenement which her father held sometime "in villa de Hurnlye, apud paruam Watham" [Little Waltham].¹

Test. : Robert de Hurnlye, William, fil. Jordani Forestarii, clericus, William Ailbode, etc.

Temp. Edw. II.

¹ In the Parish of Waltham St. Laurence.

271. GRANT by Christina de la Welle de Esthamstede to John de Waledene and John de Remeham, of his whole part of a "grava"¹ in La Rudinge in Esthamstede [East-hampstead].

Test. : William le Frere, Martin Strangbon, Gilbert Ode, etc.

Temp. Edw. II.

¹ A grove.

272. GRANT by Ralph de Hurleya, fil. et her. quondam Roberti de Hurleya, to Richard Edward, of a tenement between the land of Richard Godheryng¹ and the land of Henry le Louedrawere, in Hurley.

Test. : William de la Dene, Richard Godherynge, Alexander Coquus, etc.

Temp. Edw. II.

¹ Good Herrings, a small field near Hall Place Park, 1 acre 3 roods 28 perches (Tithe App.).

273. GRANT by Robert de Hurlye to Ralph, fil. Will. de Medmenham, in free marriage with Joan, his daughter, of land in Hurley, lying in Nethercroft and Westfield.

Test.: William de la Ho, of Cookham, Dom. Walter de Angmodesham, Geoffrey Bulluc.

Temp. Edw. II.

274. GRANT by Helen, relicta Roberti Othin, to Hugh de la Bene, of two acres of land in Hurley, lying in a field called Cocsette, at an annual rent of eightpence.

Test.: Hugh de la Lullebroc, Peter Ailward, Turric de Sottebroc, etc.

Temp. Edw. II.

275. GRANT by Richard, fil. Ricardi le Squier de Birchurste,¹ to Agnes, fil. Johannis de Heyfield, of his land at Birchurste in Hurley.

Test.: Ralph de Hurlee, John le Squier, John de Ho.

Temp. Edw. II.

¹ Birchets Green.

276. GRANT by John de Wytercote to William Streu, jun., of the tenement which he lately bought of William de la Dene, in Hurley.

Test.: John Coke, Richard le Schephurde, John Puni-aunt, etc.

Temp. Edw. II.

277. GRANT by Reginald atte Hale to Cristina atte Boure, of a messuage and curtilage at La Cnolle¹ in Hurley.

Dated: La Cnolle, S. bef. Ascension Day [21st May],
1 Edw. III [1327].

¹ Knowl Hill.

278. LEASE by Cristina, widow of William de Hurle, to Nicholas de Hoghton, of 60 acres of land in Hurley, lately granted to her by Geoffrey de Hurle, "then living".

Dated: 27th May, 1327.

279. BOND from Richard de Coleworthe, Prior of Hurley, to John de Oxonia, of London, vintner, by recognizance made before the Barons of the Exchequer at Westminster, 27 May, 1 Edw. III [1327] in £60, payable on St. Andrew's Day [30th November], next. To be annulled if the said Prior pay to the said John "in hospicio habitacionis sue apud Garlekhuth London" [Garlickhithe] £30 within the octave of Christmas next.

Dated : London, 29th May, 1327.

280. GRANT by John de la Graue de Hurle, to Walter his son, of a messuage and land in Bradecroft, Wetcroft, etc., in Hurley.

Dated : S. bef. Nat. of B. V. Mary [8th September], 1 Edw. III [1327].

281. RELEASE by Adam de Sharesull, miles, to Reginald atte Hale of Hurley, from all suits arising out of the execution of the will of Joan de Fenes, widow of the said Adam.

Test. : Dom. Edmund de Bereford and Dom. William de Sharesull, milites ; Thomas le Cok de Dorkhestre [Dorchester, co. Oxon.], William Mawardyn, etc.

Dated : Brightewell [co. Oxon.], 23rd September, 1 Edw. III [1327].

Small seal of arms.

282, 283. QUIT-CLAIM and counterpart by Cristina, widow of William de Hurle, to Richard Hauard, of all her lands in Hurley.

Test. : Thomas de Say, John Scot ballivus de Kyngestone [Kingston-on-Thames], John Scot, of Henley, etc.

Dated : apud Chissendon [Chessington, co. Surr.], M. aft. F. of SS. Simon and Jude [28th October], 1 Edw. III [1327].

284. GRANT by Thomas de Wydemere, of Medmenham, to John Payn, of S^cheuyngfeld [Shinfield, co. Berks.], of a messuage in Hurley.

Dated: S. bef. F. of King Edward the Confessor [5th January], 1 Edw. III [1328].

285. WRIT from J. de Boklond, sheriff of Berks., to the Bailiff of the Liberty of the Abbot of Westminster at Hurley and Easthampstead, that he has received a royal mandate to attend the Treasury at Westminster, and to take with him all that he owes to the Crown on the new and old form, and all debts underwritten.

Test.: Henry de Burghersh, Bishop of Lincoln, Treasurer-Royal.

Dated: Westminster, 3rd February, 2 Edw. III [1328].

Endorsed: "Copia extracta de viridi¹ cera super com-potis vicecomitis Oxoniensis."

¹ *Green wax* is where estreats [extracts] are delivered to the Sheriffs out of the Exchequer under the seal of that court in *green wax*, to be levied in the several counties (Jacob's *New Law Dict.*).

286. SURRENDER by William Ode to Cristina, widow of William de Hurlee, his sister, of all lands leased by her to him and Richard Hauard.

Dated: Nat. of B. V. Mary [8th September], 2 Edw. III [1328].

287. DELIVERY at Hurley by Richard, Prior of Hurley, at the instance of Roger de Gildesbrugh, clerk to Isabel, Queen of England [widow of Edward II], to Hugh de Normanville, sub-warden of the castle and town of Guldeford [Guildford, co. Surrey], of a bay horse, value 10*sh.*, a saddle with crupper and bridle, value 6*sh.* 8*d.*, all of which were lately seized at Jezhamsted [Easthampstead], "quasi provenientes ex vago vel de extrahura",¹ and are claimed by the said Hugh to be the chattels of Thomas de Tynmuth, late keeper of the said Queen's stables in Guildford Park,

the said Thomas having been feloniously murdered at Wikhamgate in Easthampstead on the 1st May last. The said Hugh also binds himself to preserve the said Prior harmless towards the Queen, and to return the goods if adjudged to do so.

Dated: Hurley, Morr. of St. Barnabas [12th June],
3 Edw. III [1329].

With small seal of arms.

¹ "Extrahura" = stray.

288. GRANT by Reginald atte Hale to Thomas Turry, fil. quondam Willelmi Turry de White Waltham, of a plot of land "in parva Waltham¹ in parochia de Hurle", with a house built thereon.

Dated: Hurley, S. aft. All Saints' Day [1st November],
3 Edw. III [1329].

¹ In the Parish of Waltham St. Laurence.

289. QUIT-CLAIM by Richard le Crockere, of Hurley, to Joan de Hurle, of a messuage, garden and croft at Crockereresrowe, in Hurley.

Test.: John atte Bere, Reginald in-the-Hale, John le Botiller, etc.

Dated: Hurley, S. aft. All Saints' Day [1st November],
1329.

290. GRANT by Reginald ate Hale to Thomas Turry, of White Waltham, of several pieces of land in Little Waltham¹ "in parochia de Hurley," at a yearly rent of a grain of wheat.

Dated: Hurley, S. aft. F. of St. Martin [11th November],
3 Edw. III [1329].

¹ In the Parish of Waltham St. Laurence.

291. LEASE by Richard Haward to Walter Coquus, of a croft called Nedurcroft, and land in La Westnecroft, Estfeld, Westfeld, etc., in Hurley.

Dated: F. of St. Lucy [13th December], 4 Edw. III [1330].

292. LEASE by Thomas de Aumondisham [Amersham, co. Bucks], "custos Elene consanguinee et heredis Galfridi de Hurle" to Walter le Koke, of a house "de hereditate predictae Elene" in Hurley, "pro quadam summa pecunie nomine dicti Thome domino Priori de Hurle pro domo predicta pre manibus soluta."

Dated: Hurley, "in festo beate Marie in Marcio" [25th March], 5 Edw. III [1331].

293. ACQUITTANCE from Ricardus de Colewrth, Prior of Hurley, to William de Kyrkeshagh, magister Hospitalis Sancti Johannis de Aynho [co. Northampton] for 20 s/z. in part payment of 40 s/z. yearly, payable for certain tithes which the said Hospital holds on lease from Hurley Priory, within the boundaries of Aynho.

Dated: Hurley, Kal. Jul. [1st July], 1331.

With small seal (mended) of the Prior (?) (inscription missing).

294. QUIT-CLAIM by John le Botiller and Cristine his wife to John, fil. Matillis Symmes de Wytteneye [Witney], of a messuage in Hurley, purchased by the said John Symmes of William le Mercer, vicar of Hurley.

Test.: Robert de Lullebrok, Reginald de la Hale, etc.

Dated: Th. bef. F. of St. Dunstan [21st October], 5 Edw. III [1331].

295. LEASE by Richard Haward to Walter Coquus, of the croft called Nedurcroft and lands in Westnedurcroft, Estfeld, Westfeld, etc., in Hurley.

Dated: S. bef. Nat. of St. John B. [24th June], 6 Edw. III. [1332].

296. MANDATE by John de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, Constable of England, to the Prior and convent of Hurley, to give a corrody to Alayn de Keteringham, "nadgueres notre messenger, portour de cestes," in Hurley Priory, on the decease of "Mestre Williem."

Dated: "à notre manoir de Waledene," 20th January (sine anno) [1322-1335].

French.

Mutilated by damp.

297. GRANT by Reginald atte Hale de Hurle to Henry de Bouebrok and Joan his wife, of an acre of arable land "ad includendum et edificandum per perticam Baronis mensuratam in Parva Waltham¹ parochie de Hurle," lying in Whetcrofte, reaching to the King's highway, called La Pennynggestret.

Dated: Little Waltham, 28th February, 7 Edw. III [1333].

¹ In the Parish of Waltham St. Laurence.

298. AWARD of the "officialis Sarum," in the suit between Hurley Priory, and Dom. John, perpetual vicar of East Garston [co. Berks], concerning the small tithes arising from the demesne lands, "quondam Willelmi dicti de Londoniis," in the vill of Estgarston, Maydenecote, and Shortcombe, seized and retained by the said vicar during the two last years, by which award the said Official orders him to restore the same to the Priory, "dictoque domino Johanni vicario vicarie sue nomine perpetuum in scilencium super eisdem decimis imponentes."

Dated: Salisbury, x Kal. Aug. [23rd July], 1333.

299. ABSOLUTION by Roger, perpetual vicar of Bray, Dean of Reading, of the Prior and convent of Hurley, from any sentence of excommunication incurred by non-payment of procurations due to the Papal Nuncio in England for the 4th year of his sojourn in England, Ycherius de

Concoreto, canon of Sarum, the said Nuncio, having on ii Non. Jan. [4th January] 1332 [3] delegated his powers to the said Roger.

With small seal [rubbed].

300. MEMORANDUM of the particulars of a debt from the Prior of Hurley to the executors of Dom. Thomas late vicar of Medmenham, as to which evidence was given by Mag. R — de Wydindone and other persons.

Dated : 28th February, 1333 [4].

301. ACQUITTANCE from Adam le Fuller, of Medmenham, executor of the will of Thomas Coleman, late vicar of Medmenham, to Dom. Richard de Colworthe, Prior of Hurley, for 20 *sh.* in part payment of £20, in which the Priory was bound to the said vicar.

Dated : 29th March, 8 Edw. III [1334].

302. LEASE by Richard de Coleworth, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Adam le Dere dictus le Honte de Pushull [? Pishill, co. Oxon], of the moiety of certain lands sometime held by Robert Pruf and Nicholas Rawener, in Hurley.

Dated : 10th October, 8 Edw. III [1334].

303, 304. LEASE, and counterpart, by Richard Hauard to Walter le Ken, of all lands, tenements and rents held by lease from Cristine, widow of William de Hurle, in Hurley. To hold during the said Richard's life at a yearly rent, for 5 years, of 21 marks 6*sh.* 8*d.*, and afterwards of 40 marks.

Dated : Hurley, 1st May, 9 Edw. III [1335].

305, 306. LEASE, and counterpart, by Richard Hauard to Walter le Ken, of all the lands, etc., held by lease from Isabel, widow of Geoffrey de Hurle, in Hurley, with special reservations as to the crops.

Test. : John de Fienles,¹ Robert de Waltham, John de la Bere, etc.

Dated : Hurley, 5th May, 9 Edw. III [1335].

¹ Feenes.

307. ANSWER of Thomas de la Rokele, Bailiff of the Liberty of the Abbot of Westminster at Hurley, to William de Spersholte,¹ Sheriff of Berks, that the King's brief to distrain the Prior of Hurley in all his lands and chattels in his bailiwick,² until he answer for the outgoing of the said lands to the King, and to bring him bodily before the Barons of the Exchequer at York in the Summer Term, 9 Edw. III [1335], to answer to Ralph de Wygenholt concerning two bonds unjustly detained by him, was delivered to him, the said Bailiff, on 5th July, 1335, and accordingly too late for execution.

¹ Sparsholt is near Wantage, Berks.

² A charge, an office of trust (*Stubbs*).

308, 309. QUIT-CLAIM, and counterpart, by William, fil. Theobaldi le Mareschal de Hurle, to Richard de Coleworthe, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of the lands and tenements, "que iidem Prior et Conventus habuerunt dic quo hoc scriptum factum fuit in Hurle, necnon in officio marescalcie et aliis officiis quibuscunque," etc., which may have been granted to him or his ancestors by the Priory.

Dated : 1st March, 10 Edw. III [1336].

310. GRANT by Richard de Coleworthe, Prior of Hurley, to William, son of Theobald le Mareshal, of a corody and the livery of a white convent loaf, a black loaf called "Bastard loaf," beer, etc.

Test. : John le Despenser, William de Elynton,¹ John Dismars, etc.

Dated : Hurley, 3rd March, 10 Edw. III [1336].

¹ Though by this time Elynton had become Maidenhuth (*v.* previous notes), yet the locally-derived family would naturally continue.

For the full text of this Deed, *v.* Appendix.

311. CONFIRMATION by Cristina, widow of William de Hurle, to Walter le Ken, of the sub-lease for five years made to him by Richard Hauard, of all the lands and tenements in Hurley which the said Cristina leased to the said Richard.

Test.: Robert de Waltham, Henry de Pynkeny, Reginald in-the-hale, etc.

Dated: Hurley, 24th April, 10 Edw. III [1336].

312. CONFIRMATION by Cristina, widow of William de Hurle, of a lease by Richard Hauard to Walter le Ken, of the lands held on lease from Isabel, widow of Geoffrey de Hurle, in Hurley.

Dated: Hurley, 5th May, 10 Edw. III [1336].

313. MANDATE from J. de Alveton, Sheriff of Berks, to the Bailiff of the Liberty of the Abbot of Westminster at Hurley, reciting the King's writ for the summoning of a Jury to enquire into a complaint by John, fil. Willelmi le Mareschal, that he had been disseised of a tenement in Hurley by William Le Mareschal, Richard, Prior of Hurley, and William de Resyndon "*commonachus eiusdem Prioris*" unjustly, "*post primam transfretationem Domini Henrici Regis proavi nostri in Vasconiam.*"

Dated: Windsor, 12th May, 10 Edw. III [1336].

Attached is the panel of the Jury.

314. COVENANT between Richard, Prior of Hurley, and John de Mereworthe of Maidenhead, whereby the said Prior, being enjoined by the King to guard all the ports and shores of the sea at "*Portesmueth et alibi in Comitatu Suthampton,*" from 5th July, the said John shall represent the Prior in the said duty, finding himself at his own charges well-armed and apparelled, and a good and suitable horse with proper trappings, for which the said John shall receive of

the Priory 60*s*. for his horse and armour, and 12*d*. a day for his wages : in case, however, the said John is incapacitated, or the guard ceases within 40 days, he is to refund 30*s*. to the Prior.

Dated : Hurley, 5th July, 10 Edw. III [1336].

315. COUNTERPART of grant by Richard de Coleworth, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Richard le Warriner, of Great Marlow, of a corody every day of his life of two white convent loaves, each "de pondere¹ quinquaginta solidorum," and a flagon² (lagena) and a-half "melioris³ cervisie conventualis."

Dated : 13th September [1336].

With seal of arms of Richard le Warriner.

¹ 2½ lbs. each loaf. "Triginta solidi, id est, libra et dimidia" (*Ducange*) ; therefore, "quinquaginta solidi" = 2½ lbs.

² ? gallon (*v. C. T. Martin's Record Interpreter*).

³ Best convent beer.

316. SETTLEMENT of the dissensions between John Tuttehall, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, and the men of the vill of Yeshampstede [Easthamstead] for heriots,¹ herbage, pannage, pruning of briars, etc., in that vill, whereby the Priory grants to the men of that vill, from ancient tenure, the above-named rights, and to carry away the lopped briars at their pleasure ; also that henceforth no others of that vill be elected to the office of Baylywyk save those who hold of Odeslonde and Feldlonde, nor bedells be elected to the office of Bedelwyk, save those who hold of Wellond and Bedellond, nor shall the tenants of ancient tenure make suit at any court of the lord save at the court of Yeshampstede. The Priory further grants that views of frankpledge be not held in Yeshampstede save on Thursday in Whitsun-week yearly as of old time, and if at any other time the said men be summoned to such view

and shall not come, they shall not on that account be sued or fined.

Temp. Edw. III [1336-1352].

¹ Heriot: a beast or goods made over to landlord on death of tenant. Herbage: rights of feeding animals on the green. Pannage: rights of hogs to eat the mast, acorns, and beech nuts, etc.

317. GRANT by William de la Grenedoune, faber, to Bartholomew his son, of land next to the Prior's garden in Hurley.

Dated: Hurley, F. of St. Paul [25th January], 1337.

318. GRANT by Roger le Frere de Yarshamstede to Richard Saward, of a plot of land called Aldheghes, in Yarshamstede [Easthampstead].

Dated: Tu. bef. F. of St. Gregory [12th March], 11 Edw. III [1337].

319. NOTIFICATION by Symon Parker, sub-escheator in cos. Berks and Oxon., that he has received the mandate of the King's Escheator on this side Trent to this effect, that he has received a mandate from the King to withdraw his hand from the estovers¹ granted by the Prior of Hurley to John de Hurle for housbote, heybote and fuel in the Priory wood at Hurley, and to release the distraint on the said Prior for any sum of money to be paid him by reason of the said estovers.

Dated: Newbury, 4th April, 11 Edw. III [1337].

¹ "Estovers"=allowances to tenants for wood, comprehending housbote, heybote and ploughbote, for repairs, etc. (*Jacob's New Law Dict.*).

320. GRANT by Matilda, fil. Johannis Pingaunt, to John Nel dictus Pingaunt, of the moiety of a house and land in Hurley.

Dated: Th. aft. Nat. of B. V. Mary [8th September], 11 Edw. III [1337].

321. COVENANT between John, son of Thomas de Agmodesham, and Elena his wife, with Walter le Cok, that the house in Hurley which the said Elena inherited as kinswoman and heiress of Geoffrey de Hurle, and which the said Thomas, guardian of the said Elena during her minority, leased in March 1331 to the said Walter for ten years shall now be his in perpetuity, paying to the said John and Elena for the first thirteen years an annual rent of twenty shillings.

Dated : T. bef. Michaelmas, 11 Edw. III [1337].

Cf. No. 106.

322. GRANT by John de Agmondesham and Elena his wife to Walter le Cok, of a house inherited by her from her cousin, Geoffrey de Hurle, in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, Tu. bef. Michaelmas Day, 11 Edw. III [1337].

323. GRANT by Agnes Akyn de Hendle, to Richard, fil. Ricardi atte Watere de Hurle, of a house and three acres of land in Hurley.

Dated : F. of the Annunciation [25th March], 12 Edw. III [1338].

324, 325. GRANT and counterpart by Reginald atte Hale to Thomas, son of Juliana atte Boure, of a messuage at La Stamphulle, in Hurley.

Dated : St. George's Day [23rd April], 1338.

326. GRANT by Reginald atte Hale to Joan and Isabel, his daughters, of that messuage in Hurley held by grant from Hurley Priory.

Dated : F. of St. George [23rd April], 1338.

327. SALE by Richard de Babeham to Alexander de Babeham, his brother, of "omnia bona et catalla, viva et mortua, mobilia et immobilia et tam blada in campis

crescentia quam alibi existencia in omnibus terris et tenementis que idem Alexander habet ex concessione mea in Hurle".

Dated : "apud Cokham" [Cookham], 26th May, 12 Edw. III [1338].

With small seal of arms.

328. QUIT-CLAIM by John, fil. Willelmi le Mareschal, to Reginald atte Hale and Merota his wife, of a plot of land in Hurley.

Dated : 28th May, 1338.

329. GRANT by Richard atte Watere de Hurle to William Hobbe, of a messuage and three acres of land in Estfeld and Westfeld, in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, 31st May, 12 Edw. III [1338].

330. SURRENDER from Walter le Ken to Richard Hauard of all lands and tenements lately leased to him by the said Richard for his lifetime, in Hurley, except the croft called Netherecroft and seven acres of land in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, 30th April, 13 Edw. III [1339].

331. LEASE by Richard Hauard to Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hamslepe, clerici, of all lands and rents held by lease from Cristine, widow of William de Hurle, and from John de Agmodesham and Elena his wife, in Hurley, to be held during the said Richard's life, at various yearly rents.

Dated : Hurley, 7th May, 13 Edw. III [1339].

332. COVENANT between Richard Hauard and Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hamslepe, clerici, concerning the lands in Hurley, late belonging to Cristina de Hurle.

Dated : 8th May, 1339.

333. BOND from Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hamslepe, clerici, to Richard Hauard, to deliver him "unam

robam bonam et competentem pro armigeris¹ de anno in annum," at Christmas at Hurley, so long as the lands, etc., held by them by lease from the said Richard shall remain in their hands.

Dated : Hurley, 9th May, 13 Edw. III [1339].

¹ Gentlemen who bear arms.

334. GRANT by Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hamslep to Walter le Ken, that he may have all the goods and chattels on the lands in Hurley which he sometime held on lease, but which are now held by Richard Hauard.

Dated : Hurley, 10th May, 13 Edw. III [1339].

335, 336. CONFIRMATION, in duplicate, by Cristine, widow of William de Hurle, of the lease from Richard Hauard (for his life) to Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hampslepe, clerici, of lands and tenements in Hurley.

Dated : 10th May, 1339.

337. LEASE by Richard Hauard to Simon de T[othale] and Philip de [Hampslepe] of all lands and tenements which he holds from Cristina de Hurle, in Hurley.

Dated : 7th September, 1339.

Mutilated.

338. GRANT by Nicholas le Grof to Dom. Adam de Thorpe, capellanus parochie de Sotesbroc [Shottesbrooke], and John Aldewyn de Bunfield [Binfield], of land in Hurley, lying in le Homcroft, and extending to Crouchstrete.

Dated : "apud parvam Waltham¹ in parochia de Hurlee," M. aft. F. of St. Hilary [13th January], 13 Edw. III [1340].

¹ Waltham St. Laurence.

339. QUIT-CLAIM by Richard Hauard to Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hampslepe, clerici, of all the lands

and tenements in Hurley, sometime belonging to Geoffrey de Hurle.

Dated : "apud Wolueleghe [Woolley, in White Waltham] in com. Berks," 14th February, 14 Edw. III [1340].

340. LEASE by Richard Hauard to Dom. John de Fienles,¹ miles, of a yearly rent from all lands and tenements held by lease from Cristina, widow of William de Hurle, and from John de Agmondesham and Elena his wife, in Hurley.

Test : Robert de Waltham, Alexander de Babeham, William Vyel, etc.

Dated : "apud Wolueleghe in com. Berks." [Woolley,² in White Waltham], 14th February, 14 Edw. III [1340].

¹ Feenes.

² For some court rolls of this manor, *v.* Brit. Mus. Add. Charters, 24,443—24,448.

Cf. No. 106.

341. QUIT-CLAIM by Cristine, widow of William de Hurle, to Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hampslepe, clerici, of the late Geoffrey de Hurley's lands in Hurley.

Dated : "Wolveleghe¹ in com. Berks," 14th February, 1340.

¹ Woolley.

342. GRANT by Adam de Thorp, capellanus cantarie de Sotesbrok [Shottesbrook, co. Berks.], and John Aldewyn de Benetfeld [Binfield] to the three sons of Nicholas le Grof, of a messuage, garden, etc., in Hurlegh [Hurley].

Dated : M. aft. F. of St. Matthias [24th February], 14 Edw. III [1340].

343. LEASE by John de Fienles,¹ chivaler, to Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hampslepe, clerici, of all lands and tenements which belonged to Isabel, widow of Geoffrey de Hurle, in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, 20th September, 14 Edw. III [1340].

¹ Feenes.

344. QUIT-CLAIM by John de Fyenles, chivaler, to Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hamslepe, clerici, of all lands and tenements sometime belonging to Geoffrey de Hurle, in Hurley.

Test.: Alexander de Neuport, clericus, Alexander de Sancto Albano, Reginald atte Hale, etc.

Dated : Hurley, 29th September, 14 Edw. III [1340].

345. QUIT-CLAIM by Richard Hauard to Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hamslepe, clerici, of all lands and tenements sometime belonging to Geoffrey de Hurle, in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, 29th September, 14 Edw. III [1340].

346. QUIT-CLAIM by Cristine, widow of William de Hurle, to Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hampslepe, clerici, of all lands, etc, in Hurley, sometime belonging to Geoffrey de Hurle.

Dated : 29th September, 1340.

347. AGREEMENT of Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hamslepe, clerks, to reduce the annual rent which Cristine, widow of William Hurle, pays for the late Geoffrey de Hurle's lands in Hurley, from £10 to 100 shillings.

Dated : 9th October, 1340.

348. COVENANT between John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, and John de la Lude, sen., touching their mutual rights in the water and fishing in the Thames, as affected by the award of certain arbitrators, viz., Richard, Abbot of Medmenham, Thomas, Prior of Bustlesham-Mountagu [Bisham],¹ and others.

Dated : 30th October, 1340.

¹ Bisham Abbey (Augustinian), founded by William de Monte Acuto, Earl of Salisbury, in 1338 (on a pre-existing preceptory of the Knights Templar), and hence the suffix "Mountagu".

349. ACQUITTANCE from Christine, widow of William de Hurle, to Simon de Tothale and Philip de Hamslepe, clerks, for 50*s*/h. due at Lady Day out of a yearly rent of 100*s*/h. payable during her life from lands formerly belonging to Geoffrey de Hurle, in Hurley.

Dated : Hurle, 10th November, 14 Edw. III [1340].

350. QUIT-CLAIM by Philip de Hampslepe, clericus, to Simon de Tothale, clericus, of all lands and tenements in Hurley, sometime belonging to Geoffrey de Hurle.

Dated : Hurley, 19th November, 14 Edw. III [1340].

351. QUIT-CLAIM by Philip de Hamslepe, clericus, to Simon de Tothale, clericus, of all lands and tenements, sometime belonging to Geoffrey de Hurle, in Hurley, which the said Philip and Simon have held on lease from Richard Hauard.

Dated : Hurley, 20th November, 14 Edw. III [1340].

352. GRANT by John, son of John le Cok, to William Beaudouz, of an acre of arable land in the fields of Hurley, "et extendit se ad caput boriale snper Seuerne";¹ at an annual rent of one penny at Michaelmas.

Test. : Reginald atte Hale, Reginald le Botiler, Richard atte Watere, etc.

Dated : Hurley, 12th April, 15 Edw. III [1341].

¹ "The Severn" was enclosed in Temple Park in 1876.

353. ACQUITTANCE from Simon de Tothale, capellanus, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, for part payment of a yearly rent of £10, due to him for his life.

Dated : F. of St. George [23rd April], 15 Edw. III [1341].

354. GRANT by Reginald atte Hale de Hurle to William Beauduz in free marriage with Joan, daughter of Isabella,

daughter of the said Reginald, of all his lands and tenements "apud la Cnolle¹ in villa de Hurle", to hold at a yearly rent of 100*sh.*

Dated: "apud La Cnolle", Th. aft. F. of St. John, a. p. l. [6th May], 15 Edw. III [1341].

¹ Knowl Hill.

355. GRANT by Reginald atte Hale to William Beauduz, in free marriage with Joan, dau. of Isabel, Reginald's daughter, of all his lands, etc., at La Dene, in Hurley.

Dated: apud La Dene in villa de Hurle, Th. aft. F. of St. John, a. p. l. [6th May], 1341.

356, 357, 358. GRANT, and two counterparts, by Simon de Tothale, clericus, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all the lands and tenements sometime belonging to Geoffrey de Hurle, and lately held by the said Simon on lease from Richard Hauard during the latter's life and the life of Cristina "que fuit uxor Willelmi de Hurle".

Dated: Hurley, 1st June, 15 Edw. III [1341].

359. LEASE by Simon de Tothale, clericus, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of the lands, etc., in Hurley, sometime held by Geoffrey de Hurle.

Dated: 1st June, 15 Edw. III [1341].

360. QUIT-CLAIM by Simon de Hurle, clerk, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all the rents and tenements in Hurley, lately belonging to Geoffrey de Hurle.

Dated: 4th June, 15 Edw. III [1341].

361, 362. QUIT-CLAIM (in duplicate) by Simon de Tothale, clericus, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all the lands and tenements in Hurley which sometime belonged to Geoffrey de Hurle.

Test. : John de Fienles,¹ chivaler ; John de Cruchesfeld, Alexander de Neuport, etc.

Dated : Hurley, 3rd July, 15 Edw. III [1341].

¹ Feenes.

363. SALE by Merota, widow of Reginald atte Hale, to Edmund de Fienles, of all her goods, chattels and crops, on the land lately held by William atte Dene, in Hurley.

Dated : 17th July, 15 Edw. III [1341].

364. QUIT-CLAIM by Merota, widow of Reginald atte Hale, to Edmund de Fienles, of the lands lately held by William atte Dene in Hurley and Wargrave.

Dated : 3rd August, 15 Edw. III [1341].

365. GRANT by Isabel, widow of Geoffrey de Hurle, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all her dower lands and tenements in Hurley.

Dated : Th. bef. Nat. of B. V. Mary [8th September], 15 Edw. III [1341].

366. GRANT by Annabel, fil. Galfridi de Hurle, to William¹ de Monte Acuto, Earl of Salisbury, of a rent due from lands in Hurley.

Test. : Thomas, Prior of Bustlesham [Bisham], John de Fienles, chivaler, etc.

Dated : 1st October, 15 Edw. III [1341].

¹ William Montacute founded the Augustinian Abbey of Bisham in 1338. This was suppressed in 1536. In 1537 it was founded anew (by Henry VIII), and more amply endowed for thirteen Benedictine Monks, dissolved within three years.

367. GRANT by Joan, fil. Edmundi de Fienles, to Edmund de Fienles, of the lands, etc., in Hurley, sometime held by Reginald atte Hale, her grandfather.

Dated : 1st October, 1341.

368. QUIT-CLAIM by Joan de Hurle, dau. of Geoffrey de Hurle, to Dom. William¹ de Monte acuto, Earl of Salisbury, of two messuages with 300 acres of land, 60 acres of wood, 12 acres of meadow, and 14 acres of pasture "in villa de Hurle et parua Waltham."

Test. : John atte Beere, Robert de Wodemancote, William de Elintone, etc.

Dated : "apud Bustlesham" [Bisham], 7th October, 15 Edw. III [1341].

¹ Cf. No. 366 (*note*).

369. QUIT-CLAIM by Joan de Hurle, dau. of Geoffrey de Hurle, to Dom. William¹ de Monte acuto, Earl of Salisbury, of a messuage with 300 acres of land, 60 acres of wood, 12 acres of meadow, and 14 acres of pasture, in Hurley and Little Waltham.

Dated : "apud Bustlesham" [Bisham], F. of St. Edmund, Abp. [16th November], 15th Edw. III [1341].

¹ Cf. No. 366 (*note*).

370. LEASE by Simon de Tothale, clericus, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all lands and tenements held by Isabel, widow of Geoffrey de Hurle, "nomine dotis," in Hurley.

Test. : Mag. Alexander de Neuport, Alexander de Sancto Albano, Edmund de Fienles, etc.

Undated : *circa* 1341.

371. LETTERS patent appointing John de Stonford, and others, to be Justices to take an assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Anabel, dau. of Geoffrey de Hurle, against Cristine, widow of William de Hurle, and others, concerning tenements in Hurley.

Dated : apud Turrim London, 5th February, 16 Edw. III [1342].

With fragment of great seal, white.

372. GRANT by Robert de Waltham to Simon de Tothale and Alexander de Sancto Albano, clerici, of all rents, customs and services lately had by grant from John de Hurle, in Hurley.

Dated : 17th March, 1342.

373. LEASE by John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Merota "que fuit uxor Reginaldi atte Hale," of a messuage and plot of land adjoining, near the "communem vicum villate de Hurle qui se ducit usque in le Hose," with one head extending "usque in regium vicum villate predicte qui se ducit a prioratu de Hurle versus Bechampton."

Dated : Hurley, 29th September, 16 Edw. III [1342].

374. LICENCE from Humfrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex, Lord of Brecknock, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to grant to William¹ de Monte Acuto, Earl of Salisbury, the remainder of a messuage and lands in Agmondesham [Amersham, co. Bucks] called Braynfordeslond, held as dower by Margaret, widow of John de Bohun, late Earl of Hereford and Essex.

Dated : Hurley, 1st October, 16 Edw. III [1342].

No seal.

¹ Cf. No. 366 (*note*).

375. COVENANT between John de Tothale, Prior of Hurley, and Thomas de Wiltshire, Prior of Bustlesham [Bisham, co. Berks], whereby the former shall hold all the lands and tenements which were sometime Geoffrey de Hurle's, together with the reversion of the same, and the tenements which the said Prior of Bisham holds in Hurley; and the latter, in return, shall hold all the lands, etc., which the said Prior of Hurley holds in Agmondesham [Amersham, co. Bucks].

Dated : Bustlesham, 9th October, 16 Edw. III [1342].

Paper.

376. GRANT by William¹ de Monte Acuto, Earl of Salisbury, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of a rent due from lands in Hurley.

Dated : 10th October, 1342.

¹ Cf. No. 366 (*note*).

377. GRANT by William¹ de Monte Acuto, Earl of Salisbury, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of the reversion of all the tenements held by Walter le Cok and others in Hurley.

Test. : Nicholas de la Beche, John de Mere, John de Fienles, Knts., etc.

Dated : Hurley, 10th October, 1342.

With small seal of arms of the grantor.

¹ Cf. No. 366 (*note*).

378. GRANT by Merota, widow of Reginald atte Hale de Hurle, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all her tenements in Hurley, "ex opposito parte (*sic*) curie Prioratus;" in soul-alsms for her said husband and herself.

Dated : W. aft. F. of St. Dunstan [21st October], 16 Edw. III [1342].

379. POWER of attorney from Merota, widow of Reginald atte Hale de Hurle, to Walter le Cok, to deliver seisin to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of her tenement in Hurley.

Dated : "apud la Cnolle¹ in parochia de Hurle," M. aft. F. of St. Dunstan [21st October] 16 Edw. III [1342].

¹ Knowl Hill.

380. QUIT-CLAIM by William¹ de Monte Acuto, Earl of Salisbury, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of

Hurley, of two messuages, 320 acres of land, 12 acres of meadow, 20 acres of pasture, 40 acres of wood, and 33 shillings rent, which were sometime Geoffrey de Hurle's, in Hurley.

Dated : 22nd October, 1342.

¹ Cf. No. 366 (*note*).

381. QUIT-CLAIM by Robert de Waltham to Simon de Tothale and Alexander de Sancto Albano, clerks, of certain annual rents in Hurley.

Dated : 16 Edw. III [1342].

382. COUNTERPART of grant by John de Tuthale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex, Lord of Brecon, that he may have in Hurley Priory, on the day of his death and each succeeding anniversary, "Placebo and Dirige" solemnly chanted, and on the morrow a mass for his soul, etc., in consideration of a grant by him to the Priory of a messuage, 220 acres of land, etc., in Agmondesham [Amersham, co. Bucks].

Dated : 5th February, 17 Edw. III [1343].

With the Earl's seal (broken).

383. ROYAL licence to Simon de Tothale to assign to the Prior and convent of Hurley a messuage and lands at Hurley "que de nobis non tenentur," and which were valued at "per annum juxta verum valorem" at £4 2s. "ultra servicia inde debita et consueta," by Roger de Poley, sometime Royal Escheator in cos. Berks, etc.

Test. : Edward, Duke of Cornwall, Earl of Chester, son of the King, Guardian of England.

Dated : Westminster [25th February], 17 Edw. III [1343].

Great seal, broken (now mended).

384. QUIT-CLAIM by Joan de Hurle to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of two messuages in Hurley.

Dated : 9th April, 17 Edw. III [1343].

385. BOND by Nicholas le Grof to Richard de Babeham, persona ecclesie de Aldebury [? Albury, co. Oxon.], and Alexander his brother, in sixty shillings borrowed of them ; to be repaid at Michaelmas next, "in capella de Maydenhuth."¹

Dated : Hurley, 20th June, 17 Edw. III [1343].

¹ Maidenhead.

386. GRANT by Nicholas le Grof, of Hurley, to Richard de Babeham, persona de Aldebury, and Alexander de Babeham, of all that land in Le Crouchecroft, Le Calwefeld [? Calves Close], extending to Wygayneslond, in Hurley.

Dated : 22nd June, 17 Edw. III [1343].

387. BOND from Nicholas le Grof, of Hurley, to Richard de Babeham, persona ecclesie de Aldebury, and Alexander de Babeham his brother, for securing to them a plot of land in Le Crouchecroft in Hurley, which the said Nicholas has granted to them.

Dated : 22nd June, 17 Edw. III [1343].

388. LEASE by Margery le Dent to her mother, Amice le Dent, for her life, of a messuage with curtilage in Le Westret in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, F. of St. Kenelm. M. [17th July], 17 Edw. III [1343].

389. GRANT by Symon Jurdan, of Missenden, to William Beudouz, of Hurley, of all his lands and tenements in Aumondesham, [Amersham, co. Bucks.].

Dated : Aumondesham, Morr. of F. of Circumcision [2nd January], 17 Edw. III [1344].

Cf. No. 106.

390. LEASE by John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Walter le Cok, of land in a croft called Byrlotesworthy between the King's highway leading to Remenham and a field called Brodefeld, one head extending to Le Castelcroft, with four acres in Estfeld, one head extending "super pratum quod vocatur Seuerne."¹

Dated : F. of Annunciation [25th March], 18 Edw. III [1344].

¹ "The Severn" was enclosed in Temple Park, 1876.

391. QUIT-CLAIM by Walter le Cok, of Hurley, to John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of the messuage called Le Stonhous, in Hurley.

Dated : 25th March, 18 Edw. III [1344].

392. GRANT by Isabel, que fuit uxor Galfridi de Hurle, to John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of a messuage called Le Stonhous, in Hurley.

Dated : 5th May, 18 Edw. III [1344].

393, 394. LEASE and counterpart by John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley to Isabel, widow of Geoffrey de Hurle, of a messuage called Le Stonhous "in hameleto de Hurle", to hold for her life at a rent of twopence at Michaelmas, twopence at Easter, and one red rose at Midsummer.

Dated : 22nd June, 18 Edw. III [1344].

395. LEASE by John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Dom. Richard Kyngesone, Rector of Aynho, co. North'ton, of all tenth portions belonging to the said Priory, within the parish of Aynho, for a year, paying the Priory 33*sh.* 4*d.* in Aynho parish church.

Dated : Vig. of St. John B. [23rd June], 1344.

396. APPRAISEMENT of the lands, crops and goods of Hurley Priory, made by order of the King's writ "Elegit", at

Hurley, on Thursday after the F. of St. James [25th July], 18 Edw. III [1344], before a jury and Simon de Mountfort, bailiff of the liberty of the Abbot of Westminster, all of which goods the said bailiff has delivered to the Prior.

For the full text of this Deed, *v.* Appendix.

397. GRANT by William Beaudouz, of Hurley, to Joan Beaudouz his sister, of an acre of arable land lying in the fields of Hurley, "et extendit se ad capud boriale super Seuerne¹ et ad aliud capud versus austrum".

Test.: Richard atte Watere, John le Tannere, etc.

Dated: Hurley, F. of St. Dunstan [21st October], 18 Edw. III [1344].

¹ "The Severn" was enclosed in Temple Park, 1876.

398. GRANT by John Nel, dictus Pynchaunt, to John David, dictus le Daye, of the moiety of a messuage and three acres of land, late belonging to John Pynchaunt, in Hurley.

Dated: Hurley, F. of St. Thomas Ap. [21st December], 1344.

399. GENERAL Release by John de Hurle to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley.

Dated: Midlent Sunday [6th March], 19 Edw. III [1345].

400. RELEASE from John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to John de Hurle, of a rent of 10s/4., and a moiety of lands, etc., recovered by the Priory by assize of novel disseisin before the Justices appointed to take assizes in co. Berks.

Dated: Midlent Sunday, 10 Edw. III [8th March, 1345].

Seal missing.

401. ACQUITTANCE by Cristina, widow of William de Hurle, to Hurley Priory, of 50s/., part of an annual rent of 100s/., in Hurley, due to her for life from lands, etc., of Geoffrey de Hurle.

Dated : F. of St. Alphege [19th April], 19 Edw. III [1345].

402. POWER of Attorney from Adam de Sharesull to John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley Priory, to deliver seisin to William Beaudouce, of lands called Cruchefeld and Denfield,¹ in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, 15th October, 19 Edw. III [1345].

With beautiful seal of arms.

¹ Part of Bartlett's Farm. Cf. No. 122 (note).

403. QUIT-CLAIM by John Horn "de Waltham Sancte Crucis", to William Beaudouce, of Hurlee, and Joan his wife, of all his lands, etc., in Hurlee, Wergrave, and Qwyth Waltham [White Waltham].

Test.: Dom. Peter de Gildesburgh, John ffoot, William Jordan, Hugh de Berewyk, Henry Pynkeneye, Bartholomew de Langerugge, John de Brymmesgrave, John de Bolton.

Dated : "apud Waltham", 7th January, 19 Edw. III [1346].

This is a curious confusion of Walthams, as apparently there is no other Waltham Holy Cross than that in Essex.

404. GRANT by Alexander de Sancto Albano to Geoffrey de Hameldene, Margery, dau. of Amice le Dent, and Simon, her son, of the reversion of a messuage in Hurley.

Dated : Th. aft. F. of St. John, a. p. 1. [6th May], 20 Edw. III [1346].

405. GRANT by Juliana, widow of William de la Grendon, faber, to Bartholomew her son, of a plot of land with

house thereon (held from Hurley Priory by the said Juliana and William) in Hurley.

Dated : viii Id. Oct. [8th October], 20 Edw. III [1346].

406. GRANT by Margery Le Dent, daughter of Amice Le Dent, to Dom. Alexander de Sancto Albano, of the reversion of a messuage with curtilage in Hurley, on the death of the said Amice.

Dated : Hurley, W. aft. F. of St. Benedict [4th December], 20 Edw. III [1346].

407. GRANT by John, fil. Johannis le Shepherde to William Barneville, of a house and land in Hurley, lying "juxta Altesore".

Dated : Sat. aft. F. of St. Nicholas [6th December], 20 Edw. III [1346].

408. GRANT by William le Maresshal, to Dom. William de Wytteneyc, capellanus, of his tenement in Hurley, in the lane called Le Hose.

Dated : S. aft. F. of SS. Fabian and Sebastian [20th January], 20 Edw. III [1347].

409. GRANT by Alice Puniaunt to John le Daye, of the moiety of a messuage and three acres of land inherited as co-heiress of her father, John Puniaunt, in Hurley.

Dated : 23rd February, 21 Edw. III [1347].

410. MANDATE from Edward III to the Wardens of the sea-coast in co. Southampton, and to the arrayers of all defensible men, knights, esquires, and others, of co. Berks, "ac ductoribus eorundem ad dictam terram maritimam"; and also to the Sheriff of co. Berks, to refrain from demanding a man-at-arms for the above service from the Prior of Hurley, who has departed to foreign parts on the King's business.

Test. : Leonello,¹ filio nostro carissimo, custode Anglie, "apud Redyng", 14th June, 21st year of his reign [1347].

¹ Lionel, Duke of Clarence.

411. ACQUITTANCE from Christina, widow of William de Hurle, to Dom. John de Thothale, Prior of Hurley, of 43*s*/*h*. 4*d*., in part payment of a yearly rent of 100*s*/*h*. for lands and tenements sometime belonging to Geoffrey de Hurle, in co. Berks.

Dated : Hurley, S. aft. All Saints' Day [1st November], 21 Edw. III [1347].

412. GRANT by Bartholomew, fil. Willelmi Fabri atte Grendoune de Hurle, to Simon de Tothale, clericus, of that plot of ground with house upon it, near the Prior's garden, in Hurley.

Dated : M. aft. F. of Con. of the B. V. Mary [8th December], 21 Edw. III [1347].

413. GRANT by Simon de Tothale, clericus, to John de Tothale, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of a plot of ground with house built upon it, near the Priory garden.

Dated : Vig. of Epiphany [5th January], 1348.

414. QUIT-CLAIM by John le Tannere, fil. Alani le Soutere, to Amice le Dent and Geoffrey de Hameldon, of a messuage in Le Westret, in Hurley.

Dated : S. aft. F. of St. Gregory [12th March], 22 Edw. III [1348].

415. DEFEAZANCE of a bond from Roger le Tyghelere, of Tyughurst [? Tilehurst], to Simon de Tothale, clericus, for securing peaceable possession of four acres and the moiety of one acre of land, granted by the said Roger to the said Simon, in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, the Morrow of St. Dunstan [22nd October], 22 Edw. III [1348].

416. GRANT by John, fil. Alexandri Coci, of Hurley, to Alexander his son, of a messuage with curtilage "in Le Westret in villa predicta", and two acres of arable land, one of which lies "in campo vocato Coksete" and the other "in campo vocato Bukenhull", at an annual rent of ten pence.

Dated : Hurle, Fr. aft. F. of St. Leonard [6th November], 22 Edw. III [1348].

417. GRANT by John, fil. Alexandri Cook, to Joan his daughter, of a messuage in Hurley, in le Upstrete, and two acres of land in Coksete and Bykemerefield.¹

Dated : Fr. aft. F. of St. Leonard [6th November], 22 Edw. III [1348].

¹ Bikemere=Big Moor.

418. QUIT-CLAIM by William, fil. Henrici Hendibody, to Joan, fil. Walteri le Coke, widow of John le Mareschal de Hurle, of that tenement, with half-virgate of land, sometime William le Mareschal's, in Hurley, and of the office of Marshal, with all its profits and appurtenances.

Dated : S. bef. F. of SS. Peter and Paul [29th June], 23 Edw. III [1349].

419. GRANT by Joan, que fuit uxor quondam Johannis de (*sic*) Mareschal, fil. Will. le Mareschal de Hurlee, to William Beaudouz, of the whole tenement and arable land which were sometime William le Mareschal's, as well as the "officium marescalli in prioratu de Hurlee cum omnibus et singulis proficuis suis in eadem villa".

Test. : Ralph Lollebroc, Edmund Smewyn, William le Botiler, etc.

Dated : Hurley, Sat. aft. F. of SS. Peter and Paul [29th June], 23 Edw. III [1349].

420. GRANT by William Beudous to Joan, widow of John le Mareschal, fil. Willelmi le Mareschal, of that tenement which the said William le Mareschal sometime held, and the office of Marshal to Hurley Priory with its emoluments, which tenement and office the said John had granted to the said William Beudous.

Dated : S. aft. F. of St. Lambert [17th September], 23 Edw. III [1349].

421. ABSOLUTION by Burdus de Pillis, canon of Arras, commissary, of Dom. John de Tothale, Prior of Hurley, from the sentences of excommunication, suspension, and interdict incurred through default of the payment of five shillings "pro quadam pensione de ecclesia de Cippenham, dioc. Norwyc. [Chippenham, co. Cambr.], due in respect of procurations.

Dated : 11th November, 1349.

422. QUIT-CLAIM by John, fil. Henrici Dysmars, de Cokham [Cookham], to William Beudous, of the lands in Hurley now held by the latter.

Dated : S. bef. F. of St. Andrew [30th November], 24 Edw. III [1350].

423. GRANT by John, son of William le Soutere, of Hurley, to William Beaudouce, of all lands and tenements inherited from his father in Hurley.

Test. : Ralph de Lollebrok, John Beaudouce, etc.

Dated : Hurley, M. aft. F. of St. Andrew [30th November], 24 Edw. III [1350].

424. GRANT by Ralph le Smyth and Joan his wife, to William Beaudous, of Hurley, of all the lands and tenements held by John le Mareschal, Joan's late husband, and of the office of Marshal of the Priory, granted by William Seger "quondam Prior de Hurle" to Ralph Marescallus.

Dated : 10th April, 26 Edw. III [1352].

425. GRANT by Walter dictus le Manne de Culham and Dionysia his wife, to John Carpentarius, of an acre of meadow in Westmed, in Hurley.

Dated : 14th April, 1352.

426. QUIT-CLAIM by Symon, fil. Thome Godegrom, to William Beaudouz, of the whole tenement sometime held by William le Mareschal, in Hurley ; with the office of Marshal to the Priory with its emoluments.

Dated : Hurley, 20th May, 26 Edw. III [1352].

427, 428. GRANT, and counterpart, by Richard le Groser "de Littel Waltham de parochia de Hurle," to John Fairchild, of a messuage in Hurley lying between the land of the late Adam Kere "et regiam viam vocatam Knolestret."¹

Dated : "apud Littel Waltham² in parochia de Hurle," 1st July, 26 Edw. III [1352].

¹ Knowl Hill.

² Waltham St. Laurence.

429, 430. QUIT-CLAIM, in duplicate, by Simon, fil. Thome Godegrom, to Thomas de Cumbrok, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of the office of Marshal of the Priory, with all its emoluments, etc.

Dated : M. aft. Transl. of St. Thomas M. [7th July] 26 Edw. III [1352].

431. GRANT by Ralph le Smyth to William Beaudouz, of a plot of land "in quadam venella¹ vocata La Hose," in Hurley.

Dated: Hurley, F. of St. Margaret [13th July], 26 Edw. III [1352].

¹ "Venella = a lane.

432. QUIT-CLAIM by William Beaudouz to Thomas de Cumbrok, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of the "officium mareschalli et mareschalcie prioratus predicti," with all corrodies, profits and appurtenances.

Dated: 4th May, 27 Edw. III [1353].

433. GRANT by Thomas de Cumbrok, Prior of Hurley, to William Beadouz, of lands in Hurley, viz., in Hardyngescroft, and near Denestret, on la Vorteye and on La Denchacche, in exchange for other lands in Estfeld,¹ "super pratum vocatum Severne," on Munkenedoune,² and in Southfeld.

Dated: Hurley, "in pleno capitulari nostro," Vig. of All Saints [31st October], 27 Edw. III [1353].

¹ Enclosed in Temple Park.

² 36 acres 1 rood 12 perches arable and wood (Tithe App.), now grass and wood, enclosed in Temple Park, south of Witney's Lane, Marlow Road.

434. GRANT by Alexander de Babeham to Adam de la Garderobe de Bustlesham, of lands in Hurley sometime belonging to Walter de Wykenholte.

Dated: 2nd April, 1354.

435. GRANT by Joan la Grymme, filia quondam Roberti le Grymme de Hurlee et uxor quondam Henrici le Louedrawere to John Coluere, of a messuage with curtilage "in villa de Hurlee apud Crokkernerewe voc[at]um Louedrawers."

Dated: Hurley, M. aft. Trinity Sunday [8th June], 28 Edw. III [1354].

436. LEASE by Thomas de Cumbrok, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to William "le Bocher cognomento le

Taylur," of a messuage "vocatum le Stonhous cum duabus souldis ex utraque parte iacentibus" [? in Hurley].

Dated: Hurley, S. aft. F. of St. Gregory [12th March], 29 Edw. III [1355].

437. GRANT by John Blake to Dom. Willelmus, perpetuus vicarius de Hurley, and to William Beaudouz, of a messuage, etc., in Hurley.

Dated: F. of St. Petronilla [31st May], 1355.

438. QUIT-CLAIM by Robert Nobet to Thomas Cambrok (?), Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of 53*sh.* 4*d.* in part payment of a yearly pension of 100*sh.* due to him; which sum of 53*sh.* 4*d.* the said Robert shall henceforth receive from the Abbot of Waleden [co. Essex].

Dated: "apud Plessetum" [Pleshey, co. Essex], S. aft. F. of St. Bartholomew [24th August], 29 Edw. III [1355].

439. GRANT by Alexander de Babeham and Adam de la Garderobe de Bustesham [Bisham] to Richard, fil. et her. Nicholai le Grof de Hurle, and Cristina de la Garderobe his wife, of all the lands and tenements in Little Waltham¹ and Hurley, which they acquired by grant of the said Richard.

Dated: Hurley, M. aft. F. of St. Dunstan [21st October], 30 Edw. III [1356].

¹ Waltham St. Laurence.

440. ACQUITTANCE from Robert Pykot, citizen and clothier of London, to the Prior of Hurley for 40 marks borrowed of him by the Prior.

Dated: London, Morr. of All Souls [3rd November], 30 Edw. III [1356].

441. LEASE by William Beuduz to Alexander Benet and Margery his wife for their lives, of a tenement in

Hurley (except a house standing on the same, inhabited by John Gilbe, jun.).

Dated : Hurley, Sat. aft. Octave of the Epiphany [6th January], 30 Edw. III [1357].

442. MARRIAGE settlement of Thebaud, son and heir of Thomas Godchep, and Agnes, daughter and heir of William Beaudouce, of Hurley.

Dated : London, 20th June, 1357.

French.

443. QUIT-CLAIM by Thomas Neel to John Beaudouz, of all the tenements held by him from the said Thomas in Hurley.

Test. : Thomas de Walden, John Blaunche, John Osekyn, etc.

Dated : London, Nat. of B. V. Mary [8th September], 32 Edw. III [1358].

444. RELEASE by Simon, Abbot of Westminster, and the convent, to Thomas, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of 40s./l. out of 100s./l. yearly due from the Abbey of Walden [co. Essex] to the said Priory, and yearly paid by the latter to Westminster Abbey as the rent of Jesthampstede Manor [Easthampstead, co. Berks] granted by Richard, sometime Abbot of Westminster, to Hurley Priory.

Dated : Westminster Chapter House, F. of Nat. of St. John B. [24th June] 1359.

With two Abbey seals (mended).

Cf. No. 51.

445. GRANT by William de Cornwaille, vicarius de Hurle, to John Crips, of a messuage, etc., in Hurley.

Dated : S. aft. Ascension Day [17th May], 34 Edw. III [1360].

446. QUIT-CLAIM by John le Blake to John Crips, of a messuage, etc., in Hurley, "juxta Alteshore."

Dated: S. aft. Ascension Day [17th May], 1360.

447. MORTGAGE by John le Blake to John Crips, of Gt. Marlow, of a messuage, etc., in Hurley, for £10 and 6,000 tiles.

Dated: Hurley, M. aft. F. of St. Petronilla [31st May], 1360.

448. GRANT by Margery Howton, fil. quondam Galfridi de Hurle, to Thomas, fil. Johannis de Agmodesham, of a messuage in Hurley, inherited on the decease of Joan, her sister, and two cottages at Burchehurst¹ in Hurley.

Dated: Hurley, Vigil of F. of St. John Bapt. [24th June], 35 Edw. III [1361].

With small seal of arms (rubbed).

¹ Birchets Green.

449. ACQUITTANCE from John de Hurle, citizen and apothecary of London, executor of the will of Thomas de Waldene, late citizen and apothecary of London, to Thomas de Cumbroke, Prior of Hurley, for a sum of money in which the Prior was bound to him for spices [pro speciebus].

Dated: Morr. of Nat. of B. V. Mary [9th September], 35 Edw. III [1361].

450. ACQUITTANCE by Dom. Richard de Hakeborn, capellanus, and John Beaudouz, to Hurley Priory, of the goods and chattels specified, viz., brass pots, carpets, candlesticks, an axe, etc.

Dated: Hurley, 11th October, 36 Edw. III [1362].

451. QUIT-CLAIM by Margaret Botiler, relict of William Botiler, to Joan Botiler, the latter's sister, of the third part of lands and tenements formerly held by the said William

in Hurley, and of the third part "corrodii percipiendi in Prioratu eiusdem ville de Hurlee, que quidem tertia pars terrarum et tenementorum atque corrodii ad me post mortem dicti Willelmi Botiler quondam mariti mei dotis nomine pertinebat."

Test. : Dom. Thomas de Mentemor, vicarius de Foxton [co. Cambr.], Thomas Botiler, Thomas Taylour, de Hardleston, etc.

Dated : "apud Hardleston" [Harston, co. Cambr.], S. bef. Nat. of St. John B. [24th June], 37 Edw. III [1363].

452. GRANT by Thomas Combrok, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to William Coue, Margery his wife, and Anabel their daughter, of a messuage at Birchurst¹ in Hurley, near "quandam stratam que se ducit de Birchurst versus Hurle."

Test. : Richard de Abyndon, John Berkele, Robert le Bassher, etc.

Dated : "In capitulo nostro de Hurle," M. aft. F. of the Translation of St. Thomas, M. [7th July] 37 Edw. III [1363].

¹ Birchets Green.

453. GRANT by Joan Botiler, of Hurley, or of Wodemancote [in Cookham], widow, to Thomas Davy, of South Waddon [? Whaddon, co. Bucks], of all her lands, tenements, rents, etc., in Hurley and Keyngham [Kingham, co. Oxon], with a corody of bread, beer and potage in the Priory of Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, Sat. bef. F. of St. Margaret [13th July], 37 Edw. III [1363].

454. GRANT by Richard le Grof and Cristina his wife to Robert de Mapulderham and Alice his wife, of a messuage and curtilage in Little Waltham, at La Knolle, in Hurley Parish.

Dated : Hurley, S. aft. Michaelmas, 37 Edw. III [1363].

455. GRANT by John Hampslape, perpetuus vicarius de Hurle, to John Turry and Joan his wife, of lands and tenements in Hurley and Bisham.

Dated : S. aft. F. of Beh. of St. John B. [29th August], 39 Edw. III [1365].

456. GRANT by John Crips, of Great Marlow, to Thomas Hyuendon and John Turry, of Shottesbrook, of a messuage and 36 acres of arable land, two acres of pasture, and two acres of wood in Hurley.

Dated : Maydenhuth [Maidenhead], Fr. bef. Michaelmas, 39 Edw. III [1365].

457. POWER of Attorney by John Crips to John Hamplep, vicarius de Hurley, or to Henry Pynkeneye, to deliver to Thomas Hyuenden and John Turry, seisin of all those lands in Hurley held by feoffment from John Blake.

Dated : Fr. bef. Michaelmas, 1365.

458. MORTGAGE of a messuage and lands in Hurley, by John Crips of Great Marlow, to Thomas Hyuenden and John Turry, of Shottesbrook.

Dated : Maydenhuth, Sat. bef. Michaelmas Day, [29th September] 1365.

459. EXCHANGE by William Bromley, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, with Thomas Davy, of South Whaddon, of a yearly rent of 28*s*. in Kingham, co. Oxon., from the late William Botiler's tenements there, in return for lands and tenements in Hurley, enfeoffed to him by Joan de Wodemankote, sister and heiress of the said William Botiler, and a corrody in Hurley Priory.

Dated : Reading, 10th October, 1365.

Seals missing.

460. GRANT by Adam de la Garderobe de Bustlusham [Bisham], to William Coue, of Hurley, of all lands and

tenements lately held by the said Adam by grant from Alexander de Babeham, in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, Sat., F. of the Assumption [15th August], 40 Edw. III [1366].

461. BOND by William, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Mag. Richard de Warmyngton and William Niweman, for payment of a sum of £120 to the said Richard and William, by instalments of £40 a year, in St. Paul's, London.

Dated : 13th February, 43 Edw. III [1369].

With Priory seal, red wax, broken (now mended).

462. SALE by Thomas Davy de South Waddon, to William Haukynes de Keyngham, of part of the lands and tenements of the late William Botiler, of Hurley, in Kingham [co. Oxon.], held by grant from Hurley Priory, with a corody of convent bread, beer and pottage in the Priory.

Dated : Keyngham, 10th September, 42 Edw. III [1368].

463. SURRENDER by Richard de Abyndon to William Bromle, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of lands, etc., in Hurley, leased to him for a term of 60 years by Thomas Couebrok, late Prior, and the convent, on condition that the annal rent of 30*s*.*h*. shall be paid to the said Richard during his life, and on his death 13*s*.*h*. 4*d*. to Cecily his wife.

Dated : 4th October, 43 Edw. III [1369].

464. BOND from William Bromle, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Richard de Abyndon and Cecily his wife, for the security of payment of an annual rent to the said Richard and Cecily from lands held of them by the Priory.

Dated ; 6th October, 43 Edw. III [1369].

465. NOTARIAL instrument of Denis de Lopham, clerk, of the see of Norwich, public notary, recording the settlement of the controversy between William Bromele, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, and Dom. Nicholas Kyneware, perpetual vicar of Waltham St. Laurence, touching the augmentation of the portion¹ of his vicarage.

Test.: Mag. Robert Palmere, rector of Toucester [Towcester, co. Northampton], Richard de Warmyngton, jun., and Thomas Gernon, clerks, public notaries, etc.

Dated: London, at St. Paul's church, 5th May, 1370.

¹ This shows how dependent Waltham St. Laurence was upon Hurley.

466. LEASE by William Bromle, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to William le Smyht, of lands in Hurley, for a term of 70 years, at a yearly rent of 9s½.

Dated: Michaelmas Day, 45 Edw. III [1371].

467. LEASE by William Bromle, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to John Turry, "serviens dicti Prioris et conventus", of a messuage "apud le Wodesyde", in Hurley.

Dated: Hurley, F. of the Annunciation [25th March], 40 Edw. III [1372].

468. QUIT-CLAIM by Richard atte Boure, citizen and clothier of London, to William Bromle, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of the whole 'manerius de Halle'¹ in parochia de Hurle", and also "in omnibus domibus vocatis le Yatehouses de prioratu de Hurle".

Dated: Hurley, 12th May, 1372.

¹ Hall Place.

469. BOND from William Strangeshale, of Hurley, to Dom. William, Prior of Hurley, and Mag. Richard de Wermynghon, jun., in £100, for the due payment of £60

"pro fructibus ecclesie parsonatus de Waltham Laurence sibi venditis per tres annos futuros".

Dated : Hurley, 30th June, 46 Edw. III [1372].

470. GRANT by William Bromle, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to John Smytt, of Maydenhuth, and Rose his wife, of a bushel of wheat, a bushel of barley, weekly during their lives, and two cartloads of fuel to be gathered "in parte orientali bosci nostri de Hurle" yearly.

Test. : Bartholomew Toureseye, supprior ; Thomas Combrok, John Wedon, William Bustlesham, William Crundon, William Bemflet, John Thornton, monks of Hurley ; Thomas Gernon, vicar of Cookham, "auctoritate apostolica publicus Notarius" ; John Adhelard, vicar of Hurley, etc.

Dated : Hurley Priory Chapter House, 3rd September, 1372.

With Priory seal, red wax, broken (now mended).

471. LEASE, for 50 years, by William Bromle, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Alexander Beneyt, of the lands late held by William Bisschop and others, in Hurley.

Dated : Michaelmas Day, 46 Edw. III [1372].

472. ACQUITTANCE from John le Smyth, of Maidenhead, to William Bromleye, Prior of Hurley, for wheat and barley for his corrody for All Saints' Term, 46 Edw. III [1372].

Dated : Maydenhuth, M. bef. F. of St. Martin [11th November], 1372.

473. BOND from William Bromle, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to John Smytt, of Meydenhuth, and Roysa his wife, by a recognisance made in the Court of Chancery on 28th January, 47 Edw. III [1373], in £80, for securing the payment from the Priory to the above John and Roysa

of 6½ quarters of wheat and one of barley, and two cart-loads of wood, yearly.

Dated : 7th February, 1373.

474. ACQUITTANCE from John Smyt of Maydenhuth [Maidenhead], to Dom. William Bromleyge, Prior of Hurley, of three quarters and two bushels of wheat, and three quarters and two bushels of barley for his corody on the F. of the Annun. of the B. V. Mary, 47 Edw. III [1373].

Dated : Hurleye, Sun. aft. the above feast.

475. LEASE by William Bromle, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to John Fayrchild, of a tenement and croft lately held by John Bernard "in bondagio",¹ in Hurley.

Dated : Michaelmas Day, 47 Edw. III [1373].

Seal missing.

¹ Bond tenants=copyholders.

476. LEASE by William Bromle, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Thomas Austyn de Torueston, "serviens noster", and Amice his wife, of a tenement at "Le Wode-syde in parochia de Hurle".

Dated : Michaelmas Day, 48 Edw. III [1374].

477. COVENANT between William, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, and Ralph, son of John de Agmondesham, and John atte Bere, touching the manor of Le Halle,¹ in Hurley.

Dated : 26th November, 49 Edw. III [1375].

French.

¹ Hall Place.

Cf. No. 468.

478. COVENANT between William, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, and Ralph Agmondesham, relating to the warranty by the latter of certain messuages, lands, and

rents "que vocantur manerium atte Halle¹ in Hurlee", which he had released to the Priory.

Dated: Hurlee "in domo nostra capitulari", Fr. F. of St. Andrew [30th November], 49 Edw. III [1375].

¹ Cf. No. 468.

479. QUIT-CLAIM by Ralph Agmondesham to William, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of the manor "atte Halle¹ in Hurle".

Dated: W. aft. St. Andrew's Day [30th November], 1375.

¹ Cf. No. 468.

480. LETTER from John Beaudouz to the Prior of Hurley, to deliver to Nicholas Bodewelle, of Stanes, and John Cook, of Maydenhuth, all the goods belonging to the said John Beaudouz in the Prior's possession.

Temp. Edw. III.

French.

481. GRANT by Richard Newport to John de Tourseye, and two others, of all his lands and tenements in Hurley.

Dated: 21st March, 2 Ric. II [1379].

482. QUIT-CLAIM by Richard Haddon, clericus, to Dom. John de Tourseye, vicar of Thame, of all his lands, etc., in Hurley, which sometime belonged to John Cook, of Maydenhuth.

Dated: Nat. of St. John Bapt. [24th June], 4 Ric. II [1380].

483. GRANT by John Hobbe, of Hurley, to John Terry and John Rede, of all his lands and tenements in Hurley.

Dated: Tu. aft. F. of St. George [23rd April], 5 Ric. II [1382].

484. SURRENDER by John Hampslap, vicar of Bemflet [? Bemfleet, co. Essex], to William, Prior of Hurley, of all his lands and tenements in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, 16th June, 6 Ric. II [1383].

485. GRANT by Edmund Welles to John Folkorn, of all the lands and tenements which were sometime William Coue's in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, 28th September, 9 Ric. II [1385].

486. QUIT-CLAIM by Edmund Welles to Edmund Smewyn, and others, of the late William Coue's lands in Hurley.

Dated : 28th September, 9 Ric. II [1385].

487. RELEASE by John Cocus, of Maydenhuth, to Dom. John Tourseye, vicar of Thame [co. Oxon.], John Bocher, of Merlawe [Marlow, co. Bucks.], John Terry, and Richard Haddon, clerk, and to William, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all his lands, tenements, rents, services, etc., in Hurley, which he had before granted to the same (and to John Philpot, citizen of London, lately deceased); excepting an annual rent of two marks and a "*vestis de secta armigerorum ipsius Prioris*" which, by virtue of a certain "*locustio*"¹ between him and the Prior, he is allowed on his death to reserve for the use of the heirs of his body.

Test. : Roger Cursum, John Syfrewast, milites, Adam Wardrobe, etc.

Dated : Hurle, 15th January, 9 Ric. II [1386].

¹ ? for "*locutio*"=a conversation.

488. QUIT-CLAIM by Cristine, widow of Nicholas Groue, to John Grene, vicar of Hurley, of all the lands and tenements of her late husband in Hurley and Waltham St. Laurence.

Dated : T. aft. F. of St. Ambrose [11th April], 9 Ric. II [1386].

489. GRANT by William Zepuswyche, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, "ad reverenciam et instanciam Nobilissimi ac illustrissimi domini viri ac fundatoris domus nostre domini Henrici¹ comitis Derby, Hereford et Northampton ac domini de Breknok," to Peter Peterwych "servienti domini nostri supradicti," of "unum panem album conventualem, unam lagenam cervisie conventualis et unum ferculum² coquine sicut unus monachus percipit in refectorio nostro de servicio generali," to enjoy daily for his life, and also "unam cameram pro mansione sua in prioratu nostro predicto quandocunque ibi voluit personaliter habitare."

Dated : Hurley, 13th May, 10 Ric. II [1387].

With fragment only of seal.

¹ Afterwards King Henry IV. On May 16th, 1401, Henry IV granted 100 marks' worth of wood from Windsor Forest to repair Hurley Church and Campanile and the Priory buildings (see *Patent Roll*, 2 H. IV, p. 3, m. 6). His Queen, Mary de Bohun, was descended from G. de Mandeville, the founder of our Convent.

² "Ferculum" = a dish, or mess.

490. GENERAL release from John Graungeer de Hurley, to Dom. William Zepuswyhc, Prior, and the convent of Hurley.

Dated : 15th February, 11 Ric. II [1388].

491. BOND from Edmund Hony of Waltham [St.] Laurence, to William Zepyswich, Prior of Hurley, in £40, "pro mercandisis ab eo in Stapula¹ Westmonasterii emptis."

"Datum in dicta stapula," 12th January, 12 Ric. II [1389].

¹ The Wool Staple, or market, in Westminster, began at Temple Bar and reached to Tuthill.

492. GRANT by William Ypeswyche, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to John Terry, of Bray, for his life, each week of one bushel of wheat, one bushel of barley, and one bushel of oats out of their manor and lands of Hurley; and they will ordain anniversaries for the souls of the said John, Joan his wife, already dead, and other friends "*quos idem Johannes Terry nominare voluerit*", with Placebo, Dirige, and High Mass of Requiem. The said John grants yearly during his life to pay them *3s. 4d.* "*videlicet, in die quo predicta anniversaria fient, in emendacionem victualium nostrorum monachorum.*"

Dated : Hurley, "in capitulo nostro," F. of St. Laurence, M. [10th August], 13 Ric. II [1389].

493. BOND from William Geppeswych, Prior of Hurley, and the convent, to John Terry, for the due payment to him for his life of an annual pension of thirty shillings, and 200 pigeons¹ [*pipiones*], and a weekly payment of one bushel of corn, one bushel of barley, one bushel "*avenarum grossarum prout crescunt in terris dominicis de Hurle.*"

Dated : Hurley, Michaelmas, 13 Ric. II [1389].

¹ Clearly kept in "the Dovecote", still standing near one of the tithe barns in Hurley.

494. GRANT by Edmund Hony, of Waltham St. Laurence, to John Grene, vicar of Hurley, and two others, of all the lands, etc., lately held by Richard atte Grove, in Hurley and Waltham St. Laurence.

Test. : Dom. John Cifrewas, miles, Edmund Smewene, etc.

Dated : 8th March, 1390.

495. QUIT-CLAIM by Edmund Hony, fil. et her. Willelmi Hony, fil. et her. Nicholai atte Groue, fil. et her. Nicholai atte Groue, senioris, to John Grene, vicar of Hurley, and

others, of all the lands, etc., formerly held by Richard atte Groue in Hurley and Waltham St. Laurence.

Dated : 10th March. 13 Ric. II [1390].

496. ROYAL licence to John Terry, of Bray, to assign to Hurley Priory a messuage, lands and rent in Hurley, "ad inveniendum quandam cereum ardentem coram summo altari singulis diebus ad altam missam in ecclesia beate Marie de Hurle imperpetuum."

Dated : Westminster, 25th November, 14 Ric. II [1390].
With great seal, green wax.

497. LEASE, for 20 years, by William Zepeswych, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to John Baker and Gunnilda his wife, of a messuage belonging "ad cameram conventus ex antiquo," in Hurley, and two acres of land, whereof one acre lies "versus la Brodcok,"¹ on the King's highway, and the other "in la Estfeld super Bokenhyll:" the lessees to keep the premises in good repair, but the timber to be supplied by the Priory, as well as underwood for the repair of hedges and enclosures, and for the first year the Priory shall find 100 tiles for repairing the buildings.

Dated : Hurley, F. of the Annunciation [25th March], 13 Ric. II [1390].

¹ South side of road, south-east of "The Black Boy".

498. QUIT-CLAIM by Thomas Gernon, vicar of Bray, John Reede, John Semere, and John Grene, vicar of Hurley, to William, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of a messuage, two tofts, 24 acres of land, two acres of meadow, eight acres of pasture, two acres of wood, and a rent of 3*sh.* 4*d.*, in Hurley, lately held by the Priory by grant from John Terry, of Bray.

Dated : Hurley, M. aft. Epiphany [6th January], 15 Ric. II [1392].

499. GRANT by Philip Barbett to John Jory and John May, of a cottage in Hurley.

Dated : 15th April, 1392.

500. QUIT-CLAIM by John Grene "vicarius ecclesie de Hurle," Richard Barbour and Peter Peterwych, to William, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all the lands and tenements at Burchurst "in parochia de Hurle," which the said John, Richard, and Peter late held by grant from John Terry, of Bray.

Test. : William Stauerton, Henry Pynkeney, William atte More, William Elyngton, etc.

Dated : Hurley, Vig. of St. Michael [28th September], 16 Ric. II [1392].

501. QUIT-CLAIM by Thomas Lyllebrok, Thomas Gernoun, vicar of Bray, and Thomas Cruchfeld, to Hurley Priory, of all actions of covenants or trespasses.

Dated : F. of St. Leonard, 6th November, 16 Ric. II [1392].

502. GENERAL release from Andrew Loches to William Zepuswych, Prior of Hurley.

Dated : 17th April, 16 Ric. II [1393].

503. BOND from William Herry, of Eton, to William Zepiswych, Prior of Hurley, for payment of 14*sh.* 8*d.*

Dated : 16th July, 18 Ric. II [1394].

504. GENERAL release by Robert Boreford, civis et Belmakere, London, to William Zepuswych, Prior, and the convent of Hurley.

Dated : 23rd March, 18 Ric. II [1395].

505. QUIT-CLAIM by Joan, relict of John Jory, to William, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of lands, etc., called Neweslonde in Hurley.

Test. : Edmund Smewyn, of Whyte Waltham, William Remenham, of Remenham, etc.

Dated : Trinity Sunday [28th May], 19 Ric. II [1396].

506. ASSIGNMENT by Frater William Bromle, Prior of Hurley, with the assent of the convent, "*ad vesturam¹ et municiones dicti conventus de Hurle predicta viginti solidos annui redditus provenientes de redditu de Zesthamstede*" [Easthampstead], to be received by the cellarer or "*dispensator forinsecus*" of the Priory, and paid over yearly to the chamberlain. This assignment is made in addition to other "*ordinaciones et observaciones quas sane consciencie et bone memorie predecessores Abbates Westmonasterii ac Priores dicte domus de Hurle piis visceribus de bona discrecione et laboriosa adquisicione in auxilium eiusdem conventus antea ediderunt*".

Dated : Hurley, F. of St. Leonard [6th November], 1397.

With seal of William, Abbot of Westminster, and seal (broken) of William de Bromle, Prior of Hurley. A third seal missing.

¹ Clothing and support.

In this Deed three words are written over erasures, viz., "*Willelmi*", in a reference to the Abbot of Westminster, and "*nonagesimo septimo*" in the date. It is suggested that, as William de Geppiswich was Prior of Hurley from 1387 to 1400, he made a similar assignment to that of his predecessor, Wm. de Bromle, and that the old Deed of the latter was altered up to suit the assignment of the former (the Abbot of Westminster in Wm. de Bromle's time being Nicolas Litlington). But the seal is W. de Bromle's seal, and his name is in the body of the Deed.

507. COUNTERPART of grant by William, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Richard Osborne and Matilda his wife, of a yearly rent of 40s/z. from the Priory and its manor of "La Halle",¹ for 60 years "*postquam nos vel successores nostri ecclesiam parochialem de Warefeld cum suis pertinentiis canonice et legitime in nostros proprios usus habuerimus*".

Test. : Thomas Lillebrokes, Thomas Rothewell, Richard Waltham, etc.

Dated : Hurley "in domo nostra capitulari", 12th December, 21 Ric. II [1397].

¹ Cf. No. 468.

508. BOND from William Baroun, of Benefeld [Binfield], to Dom. William Zepuswych, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, in £26 16s^h., payable on Michaelmas Day next.

Dated : Hurley, Vig. of St. John Bapt. [23rd June], 22 Ric. II [1398].

509. GENERAL release from William Parkere, of Henley, to William Zepuswych, Prior of Hurley.

Dated : 30th June, 23 Ric. II [1399].

510. QUIT-CLAIM by Robert Bongey, of Windsor, to William Zepiswych, Prior of Hurley, of all personal actions.

Dated : Windsor, 8th October, 1 Ric. II [1377]. ? 1 Hen. IV [1399].

William de Bromle was Prior, 1365-1383. ? Whether the scribe wrote the deposed king's name by mistake for the new king's name (nine days after his succession). It is written plainly : "Anno regni Regis Ricardi conquestu primo."

511. LEASE by Frater William Zepuswych, Prior of Hurley, to Isabel, relict of Thomas Chapman, of Ergaston [East Garston, co. Berks.], of all tithes, great and small, belonging to the said Prior in Ergaston, for seven years, at a yearly rent of twenty shillings.

Dated : Hurley, Vig. of SS. Philip and James [30th April], 1 Hen. IV [1400].

With seal, representing Virgin and Child in niche.

512. GENERAL pardon from the Crown to William Yepyswych, Prior of Hurley, for all treasons, insurrections,

rebellions, and felonies committed by him before F. of Purification [2nd February], last, "murdris et raptibus mulierum exceptis", and for all trespasses, contempts, extortions and oppressions with which he may have been charged before that day, "dumtamen idem Prior non sit communis latro ante dictum festum judicatus et quod non sit probator nec appellatus de morte hominis ad sectam partis nec captus cum manuopere¹ et prisonam regiam ante festum supradictum non fregerit et quod ad murdrum carissimi avunculi nostri Thome nuper Ducis Gloucestric² non extiterit".

Dated : Westminster, 15th September, 1 Hen. IV [1400].

With great seal, broken.

¹ With stolen goods taken upon him.

² Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, murdered at Calais in September 1397.

513. GRANT by John Coluere, parochialis de Hurle, to Godfrey Petyt, vicar of Hurley, of a curtilage lying between the mansion late Richard Russel's, and the mansion belonging to the sacristy of Hurley Church.

Dated : S. aft. Michaelmas Day, 16th October, 7 Hen. IV [1405].

Endorsed : "Carta de uno gardino pro J. Feryng priore de Hurle."

514. GENERAL release from Geoffrey Honte, capellanus, to John Feryng, Prior of Hurley.

Dated : 12th October, 11 Hen. IV [1409].

515. GRANT by Frater John Feryng, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, that they will celebrate each year for ever the anniversary of William [de Colchester],¹ Abbot of Westminster, in commemoration of his gifts to Hurley Church, and will also celebrate the names of Reginald and Alice his

mother, and of Thomas Merkes,² late Bishop of Carlisle. "Et ut labor confratrum nostrorum die anniversarii predicti eo micus tolleretur", they further grant that six shillings and eightpence shall be distributed in equal portion, "unicuique dicti conventus".

Dated : Hurley Chapter-house, iii non Oct. [5th October], 1411.

With seals of the Abbey, and of Hurley Priory (broken).

¹ William de Colchester, Abbot of Westminster, died in 1420.

² Thomas Merkes, made Bishop of Carlisle in 1397, was a partisan of Richard II, accompanying him in his fatal expedition into Ireland in 1399 (the above-named Abbot William was also of the company). Protested in Henry IV's first parliament against the latter's treatment of Richard; was deprived of his Bishopric, after trial for treason, in 1400, and died, after regaining to some extent the King's favour, in 1409. He appears in a cowl in an illumination representing the consultation of Richard with his friends at Conway Castle, in Brit. Mus. *Harl. MS.* 1319. (Cf. also Shakespeare's *Richard II*, Act IV, Sc. 1.)

516. PRÆCIPE to the Sheriff of Bucks., to order John de B——, to give up to the Prior of Hurley three messuages, 40 acres of land, 10 acres of pasture, etc., which Agnes, fil. Willelmi Beaudoux, held from Thomas, the late Prior, "et que ad predictum priorem reverti debeant tanquam escaeta¹ sua, eo quod predicta Agnes sine herede, etc."

Temp. Hen, IV.

¹ Eschaeta=lands or tenements that fall to a lord within his manor, by forfeiture or by the death of his tenant leaving no heir (Jacob's *New Law Dict.*)

517. LEASE by John Feryng, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to William Strode, of Hurley, W—— Kere, and John Ker, of White Waltham, of their whole tithe of corn arising from the rectory of Waltham, with the grange and other houses on the rectory, and a garden attached to the grange, for five or seven years, at a yearly rent of 16*sh.* or 18*sh.*

Dated : Hurley Priory Chapter-house, 24th May, 12 Hen. IV [1411], or 3 Hen. V. [1415].

With interlinear corrections and alterations to suit the two terms and dates.

518. LEASE by Dom. John Feryng, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to William Kere, of White Waltham, of "*totam decimam suam de bladis sibi de rectoria de Waltham Laurence provenientem cum quadam grangea et aliis domibus suis super Rectoriam predictam existentibus*", for a term of seven years, at a yearly rent of £16, twelve capons, or, in lieu, 40 pence, payable to the Priory, and 10s^h. and 5 quarters of corn to the vicar of White Waltham. The Priory also grants that the said William may have "*quatuor carectatas¹ bosci ex deliberacione Wodewardi predictorum Prioris et conventus in dicta Rectoria expendendas, et vesturam² suam de sectis valettorum suorum tociens predicti Prior et conventus vesturam dant infra terminum predictum*".

Dated : "in domo capitulari predicti Prioratus de Hurle", 20th May, 3 Hen. V [1415].

With small (not Priory) seal.

¹ Cartloads.

² "and the livery of the suit of their valets," *i.e.*, the uniform worn by their valets.

519. MANDATE of the Vicar-General of the Bishop of Sarum to the Prior and convent of Hurley, to collect tenths granted to the King [Henry V] at a convocation held at St. Paul's, London, to be levied on all ecclesiastical goods and benefices in the Archdeaconry of Berks., etc., in the diocese, excepting from the poor nuns of Lacock and East Kington, co. Wilts., the poor monks of Stanley, co. Wilts., the poor nuns of Bromhale, co. Berks., and Tarent, co. Dorset, and the poor hospitals of St. Nicholas, Sarum, and St. John, Wilton.

Dated : 1st March, 1416.

520. LEASE by William Pulburwe, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to William Benet, of three gardens in Hurley, one in Le West Stret, and another called "Huntis garden," and the third "Mays garden:" for a term of 12 years at a rent of 3*s* *h*. 6*d*., and at Christmas a capon, valued at fourpence.

Dated: Morr. of Michaelmas Day, 4 Hen. V [1416].

521. GRANT by William Pulburgh, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, "*ad rogatum serenissimi ac illustrissimi Domini nostri Regis Henrici fundatoris domus*¹" to Philip Barton, of a corody of their house, viz., 40*s* *h*., in place of John Halghton, to whom was lately delivered a sufficient estate in the said corrody for his life, it being uncertain whether the said John be alive or dead.

Dated: Hurley, "*in domo nostra capitulari*," F. of St. Peter in Cathedra [22nd February], 4 Hen. V [1417].

¹ Illegible at this point, and in other parts.

522. LEASE by John Saffrey, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to John Breche and others, of lands in Hurley lying between the King's highway leading from the Priory up to Bechamtone on the east, and the fields called Gold-dorne Hurlefield¹ on the west, the land of William Sprot, late John Jory's, on the north, "*et gravam vicarii de Hurle*" on the south.

Dated: Hurley, "*in domo nostra capitulari*," Morr. of Michaelmas, 8 Hen. V [1420].

¹ A large field (arable), immediately to the south of High Wood, in Hall Place Farm, 88 acres 21 perches (Tithe App.), is known as Hurley Field.

523. GRANT by Margery Folcorn, widow, to John Wynche and William Granger, of all her lands and tenelements in Hurley.

Dated: Hurley, 28th October, 8 Hen. V [1420].

524. ACQUITTANCE from John Gedney, citizen and draper of London, to Hurley Priory, "per manum Domini Ricardi Abbatis Westmonasterii" of 59*sh.* 10*d.*

Dated : London, Morr. of F. of St. Luke [19th October], 6 Hen. VI [1427].

525. LEASE by John Sauerey, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to John Clerk, clericus ac rector ecclesie parochialis de Eyno [Aynho], co. Northampton, of the whole third part of the tithes of the whole lordship of Eyno : for a term of seven years at an annual rent of 30*sh.*

Dated : Hurley, Michaelmas Day [29th September], 13 Hen. VI [1434].

Seal missing.

526. LEASE by William Granger, of Birchurste in Hurley, to John Folcom, of Birchurste,¹ of all the lands in Hurley, which he held jointly with John Wynche, lately deceased, by grant from Margery Folcorn.

Dated : Birchurste, 8th November, 14 Hen. VI [1435].

¹ Birchets Green.

527. BOND from John, Prior of Hurley, to Ralph atte Halle, in 46*sh.* 8*d.*

Dated : 4th August, 16 Hen. VI [1438].

528. QUIT-CLAIM by Ralph at Hall, fil. et her. Johannis at Hall, to John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of all those lands and tenements in Keyngham [Kingham], co. Oxon., sometime held by William Boteler *al.* Nourys, from the Priory.

Dated : Keyngham, 15th April, 17 Hen. VI [1439].

529. GENERAL pardon from Henry VI to John, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, unless "proviso eciam presens pardonacio nostra se non extendat ad aliquem illorum qui

venerabiles patres Adam¹ Cicestresem et Willelmum² Sarum episcopos seu eorum alterum nequiter interfecerunt seu ad illum vel illos qui neci eorum vel alterius eorum quovis modo agentes, faventes, auxiliantes, consencientes vel procurantes extiterint."

Dated: 20th June, 30 Hen. VI [1452].

No seal.

¹ Adam Moleyns, or Molyneux, Bishop of Chichester (1445-1450), had attached himself to the Beaufort party, and to the leadership of William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk. In 1448 Moleyns, with Sir R. Roos, was commissioned to negotiate a peace with France, but the surrender, in 1449, of Maine and Anjou, and the failure of Suffolk's policy, caused general dissatisfaction in England. Moleyns was regarded as, next to Suffolk, responsible for the surrender of Maine, and was accordingly the object of popular hatred. On December 9th he obtained the King's permission to travel. He went down to Portsmouth, where a force was gathered for the relief of Normandy, to pay the men their wages. A dispute arose on the subject of the pay; the sailors cried out that he was a traitor, and had sold Normandy to the French; fell upon him, and used him so severely, that he died on January 9th, 1450. (*Dictionary of National Biography*.)

² William Ayscough, Bishop of Salisbury (1438-1450), had incurred the hatred of the people of the diocese owing to his continual residence at Court, in his office of King's Confessor, and consequent neglect of his see. This feeling found a vent one day when he really did visit his diocese. On June 29th, 1450, the Bishop said mass at Edington, co. Wilts. The sacred rite was scarcely completed, when the people in the church dragged him from the altar, and carried him forcibly up a neighbouring hill, with his alb and stole upon him; then beat and killed him, stripping his body naked to the skin, and leaving it lying in the fields unburied. (*Dictionary of National Biography*.)

There is nothing remarkable in including in a General Pardon to Hurley Priory an exception in case any man of the Priory had had anything to do with either of the two murders described above. The exception would be inserted in *every* General Pardon granted, about that time.

530. LEASE by Jeffrey Poole, squyer, and Edyth his wife, to Dom Edward Downe, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of their water and fishing within the lordship of Medmenham, with a weir and a "lockestapyle"¹ in manner

and form "as old William Sprott of Medmenham late held, wyth all the hole draughtys and all oder maner of fysshying partyeyng to the same;" reserving, however, the right during the term of 80 years, of fishing six times in the year with a draught net, the said Priory at such times finding them "fysshying nettys with fysshers bootys and servaunts;" which water and fishing, etc., "of old tyme perteyned to the Hall lond wythin the seid lordship of Medmenham." The Priory shall pay an annual rent of 26*sh.* 8*d.*

Dated : 12th September, 1 Edw. IV [1461].

¹ New Lock hatch-gates.

531. ACQUITTANCE to Hurley Priory for 68*sh.* 2*d.*, being the moiety of the tenth for the spiritualities and temporalities of the Priory for St. Martin's term last past.

Dated : 17th December, 1463.

Paper.

532. LETTER from Thomas Ruston,¹ Prior of Hurley, to — (beg. "Right worshipfull Sir") complaining of the riotous conduct of William Norreys of Wynkefeld [Winkfield, co. Berks.] on the 14th July last, in breaking, with 60 others, the said Prior's close in Hurley, destroying his corn, and afterwards, before his gate, menacing and shamefully reviling him.

Dated : Th. after St. Bartholomew's Day [no year mentioned].

English. Paper.

¹ Thomas de Ruston was Prior in 1468.

533. LETTER from John [de Esteney], Abbot of Westminster, to the Prior of Hurley, as Patron of the vicarage of Waltham St. Laurence, requesting him to allow Maister Richard Wodemanse, "vicary" of that church, "to permut" the said vicarage ("in the which ye wil not graunte the presentacion as I am enfourmed") and to grant the

presentation "unto suche persone as the same Maister Richard entendeth to permute with".

Dated : Westminster, 12th May, *s. a.* [1474-1498].

English. Paper.

534. LEASE, for 41 years, by Thomas Ruston, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Richard Roos, miles, and Margaret his wife, of all those lands, etc., called Kenes, in the parish of Hurley, with eight acres of arable land "in communi campo de Hurle in quodam furlongo vocato Le Cley¹ juxta Widmerpole", at a rent of 12*s*h.

Dated : 20th February, 1475.

¹ A field styled "part of the Clays" (in Frogmill Farm) is given in the Tithe App. as arable, 49 acres 3 roods 4 perches. Charity land, called "Bradley's acre", is in the midst of this field.

535, 536. ACQUITTANCES from Richard Pole, gent., to Thomas Russheton, Pryour of Harrely [Hurley], by the hands of Davy John, for 13*s*h. 4*d*., "for the fferme of the water in Medmenham".

Dated : Lady Day and Michaelmas Day, 20 Edw. IV [1480].

Paper.

537. ACQUITTANCE from Edmund Mountford, miles, late Sheriff of Oxford and Berks., to the Prior of Hurley, for 21*s*h. 8½*d*., for tenths granted by the clergy to the King in his first year "pro spiritualibus et temporalibus suis in archidiaconatu Oxon. Berk. Midd. et decanatu de Aston et Hurle".

Dated : 11th July, 2 Hen. VII [1487].

Paper.

538. QUIT-CLAIM by John Hylston, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Robert Manfeld, armiger, of Taplow,

of a quitrent of 5*s*½. for lands, etc., in Hurley, in return for an exchange of lands.

Dated : 4th October, 1487.

539. EXCHANGE of lands between John Hylston, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, and Robert Manfeld, of Taplow, *generosus*, of certain specified lands in Hurley, viz., in Standens, Le Worthy, Bargentesfeld, etc.

Dated : 1st November, 1487.

540. COUNTERPART of grant by John Hilston, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Richard Lessy, that in return for his gift of £60 to the said Priory (now in a decayed condition from manifold debts, floods,¹ and tenths granted to the King by the clergy), they will grant him an anniversary during his lifetime and after his death, and prayers for the good estate of Princess Cicely ("the Rose of Raby"), mother of King Edward IV and Richard III, and shall observe the vigil of the anniversary of Jacob Cawode, Agatha his wife, and other relations of the said Richard Lessy. And the said Prior and convent grant to the Prior and convent of Langley Regis [King's Langley, co. Hertf.], a yearly rent of 26*s*½. 8*d*., arising from all lands and tenements of Hurley Priory, payable whenever and so long as the said Anniversary is neglected or omitted.

Dated : 27th October, 5 Hen. VII [1489].

Signed by Thomas Powys, Prior, and the monks of King's Langley.

With seals (broken) of Langley Priory.

¹ Hurley Priory is close to the Thames.

541. SURRENDER by Sir Richard Ludlowe, Knt., to Hurley Priory, of lands, etc., in Hurley (which he held by grant of Dame Margaret Roos, deceased), "appertayninge to the Priour and convent of Hurley".

Dated : 3rd January, 5 Hen. VII [1490].

542. LEASE by Richard Lote to William Folcorn, consanguineus et heres Johannis Folcorn, of all lands, etc., within the parish and lordship of Hurley, held by the said Richard jointly with Robert Blakemore and others, now dead, from the feoffment of the above John.

Dated : Hurley, 10th January, 6 Hen. VII [1491].

543. GRANT by William Folcorn, of Henley-on-Thames, to John Frankys, of all lands and tenements inherited from John Folcorn his father, in Hurley.

Dated : Hurley, 23rd April, 6 Hen. VII [1491].

544. QUIT-CLAIM by William Folcorn, of Henley-on-Thames, to John Frankys, of Hurley, of lands in Hurley which descended to him on the death of his father, John Folcorn.

Dated : Hurley, 25th April, 6 Hen. VII [1491].

545. QUIT-CLAIM by John Frankys to John Hilston, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of a messuage in Birchestre,¹ in Hurley, in exchange for a lease of other land in Hurley.

Dated : 28th April, 1491.

¹ Birchets Green.

546, 547. GRANT and Quit-claim by Robert Manfeld, of Amerden infra parochiam de Taplew, to John Seymour Collegii de Wyndesore nova in Com. Berks. clericus, of a tenement and garden in Hurley, called Jorys.

Test. : John Hilston, Prior of Hurley, etc.

Dated : Windsor, 3rd, 5th February, 7 Hen. VII [1492].

548. GRANT by John Hilston, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to Robert Smyth, of Hurley, of their land called Le Burlettys¹, in Hurley, in exchange for two acres and a half of arable land in Le Brodeokefeld,² in Hurley.

Test. : John Frankys, Edmund Deverell, William Myryell, etc.

Dated : 5th June, 8 Hen. VII [1493].

¹ Bartlett's.

² See No. 112 (note 2).

549. GRANT by John Noreys, gent., of Wynkefeld [Winkfield], to John Hilston, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, of an acre of land in "Le Hechyn ad finem ville de Hurle;" in exchange for a little garden in Hurley and an acre of arable land in Le Estfeld.

Dated : 16th September, 13 Hen. VII [1497].

With fragment of Priory seal.

550. FEOFFMENT by Leonard Wayte and Thomas Walton, at the request of Mag. John Saymore, to Walter Dudstone, "preyste," and eight others, of a tenement in Hurley, in trust to John Hampton, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, to keep an anniversary for the said John Saymore in the Priory.

Dated : 15th June, 1501.

551. LEASE by Leonard Wayte and Thomas Walton to Walter Dudstone, clericus, and eight others, of a tenement "in vico ville de Hurle."

Dated : 15th June, 1501.

552. RELEASE by William Babbam, of London, apothecary, to William Grawnt, Prior of Hurley, of all actions "ratione debiti compoti convencionis aut alicuius rei, cause vel facti cuiuscunque ab origine mundi usque in diem defectionis presentis."

Dated : Morr. of the Annunciation [26th March], 19 Hen. VII [1504].

553. SETTLEMENT of accompt between William Grawnt, Prior of Hurley, and Thomas Higgs, for the rents of Yesthamsted [Easthampstead].

Dated : 31st May, 1504.

Signed by the Prior.

English. Paper.

554. ACQUITTANCE by Robert Bullock, of Arborfield, to William Grawnt, Prior, and the convent of Hurley, for moneys due from John Hulston, the late Prior.

Dated : 13th August, 19 Hen. VII [1504].

555. EXTRACTS of proceedings of Hurley Court held in October, 1504, giving list of payments by the tenants for fines, pannage, etc.

556. ACQUITTANCE from John Camby, "scriba Archidiaconatus Bark[s]," to Hurley Priory for the cost of procurations of synods and pensions due from various churches appropriated to the Priory.

Dated : 12th October, 1506.

Paper.

557. ACQUITTANCE by John Camby, scribe of the Archdeaconry of Berks., to William Graunte, Prior of Hurley, for the cost of procurations at synods, etc.

Dated : 16th June, 1507.

Paper.

558. TRANSCRIPTS of two Hurley Priory Charters, viz. :

(a.) The foundation charter of G. de Mandeville,

(b.) The confirmation by his grandson Geoffrey.

Temp. Hen. VII.

Paper roll.

Cf. Nos. 1, 7.

559. ACQUITTANCE from Richard Andrews, to William Grawnt, Prior of Hurley, for 10*s*. due "pro feodo¹ Ricardi Weston, armigeri, senescalli prioratus de Hurley."

Dated : Morr. of Michaelmas Day, 2 Hen. VIII [1510].
Paper.

¹ Rent.

560. ACQUITTANCE from the Abbot and convent of Osney, co. Oxon., as collectors of tenths granted to the King at the last convocation, to Hurley Priory for 5*sh.* 3*d.* for their temporalities.

Dated : 1st July, 6 Hen. VIII [1514].
Paper.

561. ACQUITTANCE from John Burton, Prior, and the convent of St. Frideswýde,¹ Oxford, as collectors of the third entire tenth granted to the King at the last convocation, to the Prior of Hurley, for his temporalities in Kenham [Kingham, co. Oxon.], Pyrton² [Pirton, co. Oxon.], and Henley, for the said third tithe due last May.

Dated : 4th May, 1515.
Paper.

¹ The Bishopric of Oxford was founded (out of the Diocese of Lincoln) by Hen. VIII in 1542, and he gave the Abbey Church of Osney as its Cathedral. In 1546 the Cathedral was moved to the Priory of St. Frideswide [Christ Church], Oxford.

² Cf. Nos. 5, 26.

562. GRANT by Henry VIII¹ to William Boston, Abbot, and the convent of Westminster, of the Priory of Hurley and all manors in Esthamsted [Easthampstead, co. Berks.] with the rectories and advowsons and patronages of the churches of Hurley, Waltham and Streteley [Streatley, co. Berks.], and a messuage in Kyngham [Kingham], co. Oxon., in exchange for their manors of Neyte, Totington, and other manors and benefices in and around Westminster, Chelsea, etc.

Dated : Westminster, 3rd July, 28 Hen. VIII [1536].²
With great seal, white.

¹ The following are the details of this charter :—The Crown grants the site, soil, circuit and precinct, “*nuper domus sive prioratus*”, of

Hurley, with all houses, etc., in and around the said site: all those manors and tenements lying in Esthamsted, with the rectories of Hurley, Waltham and Streteley, and the advowsons and patronages of the vicars of Hurley and Waltham aforesaid, with all tithes, oblations, pensions, and other profits belonging to the said rectories: and all the tithes of Knoll Hyll, now in the tenure of Rich^d Andrewes, esquire, parcel of the said rectory of Hurley: an annual payment of 4 *sh.* from the church or rectory of Esthamsted: a messuage and lands in Kingham, co. Oxf.: the manor of Hurley: water-mill in Hurley: and other appurtenances (“uno magno bosco insimul jacente in Hurley antedicta vocato Hurley wood jacente justa boscum vulgariter dictum The Thykktet nuper pertinentem dicto nuper prioratui tantummodo excepto”), in exchange for the site, circuit and precinct of the manor of Neyte, within the precinct of the water Le Mote: a close called Abbats medowe, with piece of land called Cawsey Hall, 18 acres of meadow in Le Horsefery called Market Mede; 32 acres of arable, and 3 acres of meadow in Themesmede: 14 acres in tenure of John Lawrence, 2 acres near Le Eye, 2 acres of meadow in Themesmede, 2 acres of meadow in Markett Mede, 2 acres of land in Charynge Crosse ffeilde—all lying in Westminster, St. Martin-in-the-Fields: a messuage called Le Lambe in Le Kyngestreet, Westminster, with a wharf: 3 acres of meadow in Chelseheth, the advowson and patronage of Chelseth Church—the manor of Totyngton, with the advowson and patronage, tithes, etc., the site, etc., of the manor of Hyede with lands belonging thereto, the manor of Eybery; two banks, one from Totehyll to the Thames, the other between Markett Mede and the Thames; 3 pieces of the meadow called Markett Mede between the Thames & Totehyll, “et unum Le More abbuttantem super Sherdyche”; a close called Sandpyttfeld in Westminster; Longmore meadow, one bank in St. Martins parish from Abbot's Bridge to the Thames, a pasture called Pryorscroft, near the road leading from Eybridge up to Eybery, a piece of meadow called Pryors-Hoope in Theamys Mede, in St. Martin's parish; Bryckclose; Haywardescroft; a tenement, etc., at Charyngcrosse; an annual rent from the Swan Inn at Charyngcross: an annual rent from lands of the Abbot of Abington in Charyngcrosse feld; a rent from a close at Colman Hedge, Westminster, several other rents in Westminster; a rent of £4 from the manor of Chelseth, & 3 closes in Estgrenewyche.

² Cf. a similar Deed given at length in Dugdale's *Monasticon Anglicanum*, under “Hurley Priory”, No. xv.

ERRATA.

Page 63, line 18, *omit* "but."

Page 64, line 1, *after* "again!" *insert* "Chamberlain sold it in the same year to John Lovelace."

Page 64, *for* lines 9 and 10, *read* "Lovelace, who was buried at Hurley on October 6, 1693, was the grandson of the first Baron."

Page 71, line 5 from the bottom, *for* "1220" *read* "1200."

Page 77, lines 16, 17, *for* "impositium" *read* "impositum."

Page 82, line 14, *for* "Edward I [1272-1307]" *read* "Henry III [1216-1272]."

Page 86, date 1372, *for* "Adelhard" *read* "Adhelard."

Page 97, No. 20, *for* "Gileburtus" *read* "Gilebertus."

Page 100, No. 28, *for* "See No. 21," *read* "See No. 22."

Page 125, line 11, *for* "imperpetuum" *read* "inperpetuum."

Page 125, line 14, *for* "Ae" *read* "Ac."

Page 129, No. 126, *for* "[11th January]" *read* "[12th January]."

Page 132, No. 139, *for* "[22nd November]" *read* "[20th November]."

Page 144, No. 191, *for* "IOHIS VICARII HURLE" *read* "S IOHIS VICARII D'HVRLE."

Page 149, No. 216, *for* "xiii" *read* "xiiii."

Page 150, No 220, *for* "beg" *read* "bef."

Page 154, No. 237, *for* "Isabella" *read* "Isabel."

Page 155, No. 241, *omit* "one."

Page 187, No. 400, *for* "10 Edw. III." *read* "19 Edw. III."

Page 187, line 2 from bottom, *for* "10 Edw. III" *read* "19 Edw. III."

Page 199, line 5 from bottom, *for* "corrody" *read* "corody."

Page 200, line 16, *for* "pottage" *read* "potage."

Page 202, line 8 from bottom, *for* "corrody" *read* "corody."

Page 206, line 1, *for* "[11th April]" *read* "[4th April]."

Page 216, No 526, *for* "Folcom" *read* "Folcorn."

Page 225, line 12, *for* "justa" *read* "juxta."

Page 237, note, *for* "Monckedoune" *read* "Monekedoune."

[In Nos. 294, 378, 379, 397, 439, *read* "[19th May]" *instead of* "[21st October.]" In No. 415 *read* "[20th May]" *instead of* "[22nd October.]"

APPENDIX.

TRANSLATIONS OF NINE HURLEY MEDIÆVAL CHARTERS AND DEEDS, FROM THE ORIGINAL PARCHMENTS.

I HAVE selected nine out of the five hundred and sixty-two charters and deeds lately lent to me at the British Museum by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, and have translated them from the original Latin, at the present time, to give my readers as typical an idea as I can of the collection generally.

(No. 2.)

*A Precept of Geoffrey de Mandeville to Ædric his Steward, etc.,
between 1086 and early Henry I.*

G. de Mandeville to Ædric his steward and to all his men of Waltham [Waltham St. Laurence], greeting. Know ye that the Prior and my monks of Hurley have bitterly complained to me, on the ground that you so grievously ravage and destroy their wood without their knowledge and permission. Wherefore I charge you and by your fealty [super feoda vestra] command and warn you that you trespass not henceforth on their water, or in their wood take anything outside your fences without the approval of the Prior or his monks to take anything away: albeit whatever may be needful for the repairs of your houses and for the repair of your fences, I henceforward command that you have what is required with the consent in writing of the Prior or his monks. Inasmuch as I have given & granted [to them] all things in land & water, and in every particular, for my own soul and for the salvation of the souls of my family, I will and straitly command that they do hold them as well and as clear of disturbance and as freely as I have given and granted them to God and to my Church at Hurley on the day that I caused it to be dedicated. Farewell.

(No. 8.)

The following Notification of Geoffrey de Mandeville (II) to King Stephen of an Exchange made with Hurley Priory, before 1141, is rather complex.

G. de Mandeville to his Lord Stephen King of the English, and to all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, and other the Faithful both Ministers of the Holy Church and moreover Earls (Comitibus) Barons & all his friends and all his men alike Franks and English, greeting. Let your amiableness (vestra dilectio) know that I have given in exchange to the monks at Hurley a hundred shillings of my own rental for the souls of my father and my mother & of all my friends and ancestors, moreover for my own salvation & that of my wife & of all my well wishers, instead of all their tithe which they had in Edelmetune [Edmonton] Ennefeldia [Enfield] and Mimms alike in persons as in tithes and all rents, except the tithe of pannage & except the pannage of the hogs in Hurley which the monks retain through me in their hands. And these are they from whom they will have their exchange in Hurley [viz.], from Arnulf and from Alured his brother—twenty shillings. In Waltham from Aluric de Bintowrtha—thirty shillings. In Westuna [Weston] which is a hamlet in Comptuna [Long Compton, co. Warw.] fifty shillings. These tithes I have restored in exchange for these things to the Churches above named for the redemption of my soul & the salvation of all my friends & my ancestors, so that each Church may have its absolute freedom for the support of priests there serving God, and as touching the remainder [it is to go] for providing support & clothing for the brethren of Adlege who are living according to rule.

Witnesses :¹ Roesia, wife of the same Geoffrey ; Walter, the chaplain ; Geoffrey of Tireteie, steward ; Adelard, cunestable ; Geoffrey, of Querendon,² chamberlain ; Ranulf, the son of Arnulf, & William his brother ; Hameline.

Endorsed : “De eschabio” (*sic*), 1st hand ; “carta Gaufridi comitis primi”, 2nd hand ; but not same as witnesses.

¹ The witnesses are in a different, but contemporary, handwriting.

² Querendon, in Aylesbury parish, is the birthplace of St. Osith, daughter of Fredwald, a Pagan king, and niece of King Penda. Aylesbury was granted by King John, in 1203-4, to Geoffrey Fitz-

(No. 24.)

*Charter of William de Mandeville, 3rd Earl of Essex (1166-1169)
to Hurley Priory.*

To all sons of Holy Mother Church, William de Mandeville Count of Essex, greeting. Know all of you that I have given & granted for the salvation of my soul & for the souls of my father & my mother & of my ancestors in free and perpetual alms, to God and to the Church of the Blessed Mary of Hurley & to the monks there serving God the whole rent which I had in Hurley & whatever I had in Little Waltham [Waltham St. Laurence] without any reserve. Wherefore I will and straitly enjoin that the said monks do have & hold the aforesaid tenures well & peacefully, free and quit from all land service & from all custom or secular exaction. And that this gift be ratified, I have confirmed it by affixing my seal.

Witnesses : William, Abbot of Mortemer ; Henry de Ver ; Richard de Monteinni ; William, his son ; Osbert, son of Richard ; William Bruncoste ; Wiscard ; Laidet ; Robert de Luetot ; Peter de Moineuill' ; Hugh and Richard, chaplains ; Robert ; Wascelin' ; Ralph de Querendon ; William de Lisur' ; William Trenchefuil ; Simon de Camera ; Reginald de Sabrihtesw' ; Thomas, clerk.

[No seal. There is a very good large seal of this William de Mandeville on Charter No. 24. See *Hurley Seals* (p. 70). This charter was granted between 1179 and 1189.]

(No. 26.)

*A grant by Agnes to Hurley Priory of land in Oxfordshire—reign
of Henry II.*

Agnes, daughter of William, Constable of Chester, to all her lords and friends and men, alike in the present as in the future, greeting. Know ye that I have granted in perpetual alms & confirmed those two hides of land which my Father gave to the Church at Hurley for his soul, that is to say—one in Pyrton [Oxfordshire] & the other in Clare [a hamlet of Pyrton] with all

Piers, the husband of Beatrice, great-great-granddaughter of Geoffrey de Mandeville, founder of Hurley Priory.

things appertaining to them, in wood & in plain & in pasture, freehold and unmolested and delivered from all service & custom (ab omni seruicio et consuetudine)¹ to me & my heirs pertaining: And, besides this, I give & grant to the same Church & confirm in perpetuity four solidates [four lands worth a shilling a year, each] in boscage² which used to belong to Godwin Bytt and all that land called Holecumbe [two farms in Newington, Oxon., are now called respectively Holcombe and Little Holcombe] with all pertaining to it, along with the dwelling-house of Harold, so far as the ditches surround it up to the Crosses [landmarks] & so far as the Crosses continue in the direction of their Dwelling-house; and, besides all this, that they [the Hurley Monks] have [runs for] twenty pigs in my wood yearly, free from all pannage [duty] & a present of that croft which Roger Bacon gave with my consent to the same Church.

This gift, forsooth, and grant for the soul of my father & for the salvation of my own soul & of my lord Eustace, & moreover [for the souls] of my heirs who shall succeed me, freehold and unmolested and delivered from all service & custom to me & my heirs pertaining, I have given in perpetuity with all belonging to them in wood & plain, & I have granted & by my charter have confirmed & for the welfare of our souls I have tendered [it] upon the altar³ in perpetual alms as a free offering.

These witnesses: William, Prior of Erdbury; Orm, canon; Rein', priest; Ralph, chaplain; Roger, son of Alfr' de Sireb[?urn]; John, his brother; Roger, son of Humphrey; John,

¹ *Conseutudinibus et Seruiciis* is a writ of right close which lies against the tenant that deforceth his lord of the rent or service due to him (Jacobs, *New Law Dict.*).

² *In boscagio*. Boscage is food yielded by wood and trees to cattle, as mast, etc.; but, Manwood observes, to be quit *de boscagio* is to be discharged of paying any duty of windfall in the forest (Jacobs, *New Law Dict.*).

³ Bishop Sparrow's *Rationale*, p. 384 (1840), represents a king kneeling at an altar with a scroll *ex ore*—"Deo et ecclesiæ". Beneath is a note by Bishop Andrewes on the Liturgy: "It is not to be forgotten though it be forgotten, that whoever gaue any Lands or endowments to the Service of God, gaue it in a formal writing, as nowadays between Man and man, Sealed and Witnessed: & the tender of the guift was Super 'Altare' by the Donor on his knees."

son of Richard, nephew of the lady ; Richard, the minister of Pyrton ; William the Great ; Roger Bacon ; Robert—of small counsel ; Archill', the treasurer ; Rein', the butler ; Robert, son of Eudo ; William, clerk of Duninton. On the part of the Prior, Robert, son of Arnald ; Thomas, son of Ælfr' ; Ralph, the great knight ; Ralph of Clare ; Ralph, son of Ber' ; Godard, steward ; Robert, clerk ; William, clerk ; Richard, porter ; Robert, baker ; Nicholas, cook ; and many others.

(No. 27.)

Charter by Prior Ralph (Papyllion) de Arundel, to provide Tapers for St. Mary's, Hurley, before November 30, 1200.

Ralph de Arundel, Prior of the Church of Holy Mary, of Hurley, to all the sons of Holy Mother Church, alike present as future, greeting.

Know all of you that I with the common assent & goodwill of the convent of Hurley for the salvation of my own soul and for the sake of my own peace & of the Priors my successors I have granted and given and by this my present charter have confirmed a pension for the Church of Jezhamstede [Easthampstead] namely,—four shillings¹ to our Secretary & expressly for this purpose—that the sacristans, both present & future may have sufficient honourably & to the full number to provide wax tapers at the mass of Saint Mary which I have appointed to be sung. Wherefore I call to witness all Priors my successors by the tremendous judgment of God & by his almighty power in heaven & in earth that they do not make or permit others to make any infringement upon this my gift, since it is of my own acquirement ; nay rather that they increase and stablish it, so that God may increase and stablish their days and their life in everlasting happiness & that they may have a portion with Christ in the heavenly rest.

The handwriting of the original charter is beautifully clear. The parchment is about 10 ins. across and 7 in. deep. The seal, with AGNETIS F on it, is impressed on four thongs of knotted whipcord.

¹ This charge of 4s., on Easthampstead, was granted to the Abbot of Westmintster on July 3rd, 1536 (No. 562).

(No. 53.)

*A Lease from Nicholas de Oxheya to Richard, Prior, &c., of Land
"de Chadelhengre" [Channy Grove], &c., November 1, 1231.*

This is an agreement made between Nicholas de Oxheya of the one part and Richard Prior of Hurley & the convent of the same place of the other part, namely that the aforesaid Nicholas has handed over, granted & leased to the aforesaid Prior & Convent his whole land at Chadelhengre [Channy Grove] with all things pertaining to it without any reserve on lease [ad firmam] from the Feast of All Saints in the year of the Incarnation of our Lord one thousand Twelve hundred and Thirty one for as long as twenty five years following fully completed for seventy four marks which the aforesaid Prior and Convent have paid to him in ready money [premanibus] for the aforesaid term and for two shillings which they themselves and their successors will pay to the said Nicholas & his heirs each year for the aforesaid lease on the feast of Saint Michael, for all services, customs, suits of hundreds & demands of all sorts & for all things for which they can be solicited & dunned as touching the land of Chadelhengre or as touching the tenants of the same land or as touching the Prior & monks & their successors by reason of the aforesaid land in any manner until the end of the aforesaid term, save service of my Lord the King in scutages¹ as much as pertains to the eighth part of the tax of one knight [to be rendered], to the chief Lord of the fief when they shall fall due during the aforesaid term. He granted moreover that the aforesaid Prior & convent & their successors do have & hold during all the aforesaid term the whole of the service which Bartholemew of Hulle [of the Hall] used to pay for the tenement which he himself occupied in Elinton [Maidenhead], except the service of the Lord of the fief. So that the aforesaid Prior & convent may have & receive peacefully & fully all the produce & advantages from the aforesaid tenements & their tenants in outgoings of all sorts and profits which either the said Nicholas or his heirs might have if the aforesaid tenements were in their hands,

¹ Scutage, a tax (from *scutum*, a shield) levied in aid of the King's army. When Henry III went to the Holy Land, the scutage on every knight's fee was 3 marks. In Henry V's time, two scutes made a noble = 6s. 8a.

save that if any persons shall allow things to fall into neglect they shall be amerced at the discretion of their equals until the end of the term mentioned. And let it be known that the said Nicholas & his heirs shall be bound to acquit and at their own expence to defend the aforesaid land and the tenants of Chadelhengre with the appurtenances [thereof] & the aforesaid Prior & convent & their successors on account of the aforesaid land against the Lord King & his ministers & against the Lord of the fief and against all persons whosoever they shall be in the matter of all suits, customs, arrears and demands & writs of all sorts and from all services except scutages & to hold them indemnified in all things so far as the aforesaid land is concerned. Which unless they shall do, the said Nicholas or his heirs shall be bound to make restitution for all losses & expenses which either may thereafter fall to them to repair or bear, in the view [visum] of fair & legal minded men at the end of the aforesaid term before the aforesaid tenements are given back to them. Moreover let it be known that the aforesaid Prior & convent at the end of the aforesaid twenty five years shall hand back the land sown with seven quarters of wheat & five of wheat & rye mixed, & Thirty four shillings for one plough which they have received and as many well roofed [bene coopertas] houses as they have received they shall restore in good condition or four marks for the houses if by their own or their men's fault they shall have been burnt, that is to say for the hall twenty shillings, for the outer chamber ten shillings, for the Granary one mark, for the kitchen five shillings, & for the stable five shillings. But if they shall have been burnt without their own or their men's fault they shall not be held liable for the rebuilding of the houses or for payment for them. But they shall receive for the mending & repair of their houses & fences on the same holding, from the wood [on Ashley Hill] & groves [Channy grove & Pudding Hill Plantation], as much wood as need requires. Moreover the said Nicholas & his heirs will guarantee the aforesaid land at Chadelhengre with its appurtenances & the aforesaid service of Bartholemew & his heirs & the present agreement in all things aforesaid against all persons to the aforesaid prior & convent & their successors for the whole of the aforesaid term of twenty five years for the aforesaid seventy four marks, & two shillings annually, as

stated. And in order that this agreement may stand firm & lasting, to that part of this manuscript which remains in the hands of the prior & convent the said Nicholas for himself & his heirs has affixed his seal. And on the other part remaining in the hands of the said Nicholas the aforesaid Prior & convent of Hurley have affixed their seal.

These witnesses : Reginald de Albo Monasterio, then constable of Windesore ; Thomas de Bercham, Robert de Sotesbrok, Roger de Siferwast, Knights ; William Banastre ; Henry, his brother ; Reginal, the Forester ; William, his brother ; Thomas de Englefeld ; John Scott ; and many others.

(No. 197.)

Grant by John Cocus to Dom. John, Prior, and to maintain a lamp before the Altar of St. Mary and St. Leonard, Hurley, time of Edward I [1272-1307].

Know all present & future, that I John Cook of Hurley have given & granted and by this present charter of mine have confirmed to God & to the Church of the Blessed Mary of Hurley & to Dom. John Prior of Hurley & to the convent of the same place & to their successors & to their Church aforesaid in pure & perpetual alms for the salvation of my own soul & [of the souls] of my ancestors three pence of annual rents which John le Harpour and Richard de la Strode have been accustomed to pay me for land which they held under me [& which have been] received [by me] for fields in Hurley in perpetuity from the aforesaid John le Harpour and Richard de la Strode or from whomsoever they shall hold the land in future, namely at the feast of St. Michael from John Harpour one penny and at Easter one penny & from Richard de la Strode at the feast of St. Michael one penny for the maintenance & repair of one lamp in front of the Altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary & of St. Leonard¹ Abbot, kept burning so long as the Mass of St. Mary

¹ St. Leonard, a patron of Hurley, was a monk at Micy, near Orleans. Died *circ.* 559. Every dungeon was befriended by him, *for whom there were no outcasts*. It is said that prisoners called to him, and their chains fell off. His hermitage swarmed with penitents, "tied and bound with the burden of their sins". His order was :

is being celebrated. To be had & held from me & my heirs for the said Prior & convent & their successors & his Church of Hurley aforesaid with all their appurtenances pertaining to the three pence of annual rent or to such as shall accrue thereafter in future wholly and without diminution in perpetuity. And I John Cook & my heirs will guarantee [warantizabimus], as against all persons, the aforesaid three pence of annual rent to the aforesaid Prior of Hurley and the convent of the same place & to their Church aforesaid in perpetuity. And that this my gift, grant & confirmation of the present charter may stand ratified and lasting I have affixed my seal to the present script.

These witnesses: Dom John, then Vicar of Hurley; Robert of Hurley; Hugh de Lollebroc; Hugh de la Dene; Henry, butler; Richard, son of Jordan; Henry, cook; Richard, marshal, & others.

(No. 310.)

Grant by Richard de Coleworthe, Prior of Hurley, to William, son of Theobald the Marshal, March 3, 1336.

Ye all shall know, who see or hear [of] this present manuscript, that we Richard de Coleworthe, Prior of Hurley and the Convent of the same place with the unanimous assent & consent of all our Chapter, have granted for ourselves & our successors to William the son of Theobald the Marshal of Hurley, every day of his life, a corody and allowance of one white convent loaf, one black loaf called Bastard loaf,¹ one flagon of convent beer [lagene cervisie] half a flagon of beer called Moyne ale, one mess of convent potage & two messes of kitchen food, of which one mess shall be of fat meats [grossarum carniū] or fish such as that with which our free [libera] family in our hospice at Hurley shall be served & the other mess shall be from the servants' portion of the Convent in the refectory of the same place. We have more-

"My sons, man is born to work as birds to fly." When dying, he exclaimed, "O death denied so long, I welcome thee!" Represented in art as a monk, or Abbot, with chains, fetters, &c.

¹ For "Bastard", in the sense of anything spurious, see Shakespeare, *Henry IV*, Part I, Act II, Scene 4:—

"Prince Henry: Why, then, your brown bastard is your only drink."

over granted to the same William—that each year of his life, seven shillings of rent shall annually be received [by him] from lands & tenements of our's in Hurley, into whosoever hands they shall have come at the Feast of St. Nicholas, Bishop, each year; and that corody, allowance [of bread], & the rent aforesaid shall be had & received by William & his assigns in our House at Hurley, each day & year as afore[said] for the whole life of the said William, so that the said William & his assigns may be able to receive, carry off, and [use for] their own advantage the corody allowance and revenue aforesaid at the several times . . . before mentioned, without hindrance or gainsaying of any sort during the whole life of William only. In testimony of which transaction, to the part of this manuscript writing in the hands of the aforesaid William our common seal has been affixed; & on the part of this writing in our hands remaining, the aforesaid William has affixed his seal.

Witnesses: John le Despenser; William de Elynton [Maidenhead]; Robert de Lullebrok; John Dismars; Nicholas de la; . . . : atte Watere; Henry de Pynkeny; and others.

Given at Hurley, the 3rd day of March, in the tenth year of the reign of King Edward the Third, from his accession.

(No. 396.)

*A Valuation of Goods and Lands at Hurley under a writ of
"Elegit" in the summer of 1334.*

Appraisement of goods and chattels and extents of lands and tenements of John of Hurley within the liberty of the Abbot of Westminster as touching Hurley, made by order of the King's writ "Elegit" at Hurley on Thursday after the feast of St. James, Apostle, during the reign of King Edward the third, in the eighteenth year after his accession, in the presence of Simon de Mountfort, Bailiff of the aforesaid liberty, upon the oath of Richard Ailward, John atte Halle, Richard atte Watere, John Alfred, Nicholas atte Grove; William, le Lord; John le Blake, Walter atte Garston, Robert le Grymme, Adam le Kere, John Lythyng and William the Mareschal, Who say upon their oath that the aforesaid John of Hurley has the crop from one acre of land sown with oats in a field called Bykemersfeld [Big Moor]

(Nos. 147, 218) near the Brodoke [Broad oak] which crop is worth xviii pence. They likewise say that the aforesaid John hath the crop from one acre & a half of land sown with oats in the croft called Nuthere croft which crop is worth iis. They also say that the aforesaid John hath the crop from one acre of land sown with vetches in a field called Markedich near Monekedoune [Mungden] which crop is worth viii*l*.

The sum of the appraisement of all the goods & chattels aforesaid is iiiis. ii*l*. They say moreover that the aforesaid John hath one messuage and one curtilage at Byrchurst [Birchets Green] in Hurley which is worth in ordinary years iis. Likewise they say that the aforesaid John hath a certain croft of land enclosed with hedges at Byrchurst in Hurley which contains six acres of land on estimate, and each acre is worth viii*l*.—iiiis. yearly. Likewise they say that the aforesaid John hath two acres of land lying contiguous [to each other] in the field called Bykemeresfeld near Bechampton, and one acre of land in the same field near le Brodoke and one acre of land in the same field which reaches as far as Bykemere and one acre & a half of land, lying contiguous [to each other], in the croft called Nutherecroft and one acre of land in the field called Bokenhulle near le Heghegrove [High Wood] and one acre of land in the field called Markedich near Monekedoune which the same John lately held on lease from Isabel daughter of John de Wytteneye¹ which make up in all seven acres & a half, & each acre is worth vi*l*.—iiis. ix*l*. a year. They likewise say that the aforesaid John of Hurley hath one acre of land in Bykemeresfeld near Reynaldesdoune which the same John in like manner lately acquired from the aforesaid Isabel the daughter of John of Wytteneye & the aforesaid acre is worth iii*l*. yearly. They likewise say that the aforesaid John of Hurley hath half an acre of meadow land in the meadow called le Westmed which is worth viii*l*. yearly. They likewise say that the aforesaid John of Hurle hath at Byrchurst in Hurley six shillings of rent a year. The sum of the value of all the lands and tenements aforesaid is xvis, viii*l*. They also say that from all the lands & tenements aforesaid there is due to different lords of the fee yearly the sum of xs. viii½*l*. and one rose & suit & service at the

¹ Witney's lane, on the Marlow road, adjoins the fields called Monckedoune (Mungden).

court of the lord de la Halle [Hall Place] from three weeks to three weeks, and so the moiety of all the lands and tenements aforesaid is worth yearly without deduction (ultra reprisam) iis. xi³/₄d. And so under pretext of the writ aforesaid the aforesaid Bailiff has delivered to the Prior of Hurley all the goods and chattels aforesaid & in like manner a moiety of all the lands and tenements aforesaid at the reasonable price and extent as is ordered in the writ, To be held as his free tenure for himself & his assigns according to the form of the statute in a case of this sort provided, to the extent of twenty six shillings & eight pence, which the same Prior in the Court of the Lord King, before William de Sharesull and the Justices associated with him appointed to hold the assizes at Wallingford in the county of Berks, has recovered against the aforesaid John of Hurley for the damages he had by reason of a certain assize of new disseisin made on him by the same John concerning a tenement in Hurley.

In witness of which suit the aforesaid Jurors to this appraisement & commission have affixed their seals. Given at Hurley the day & year aforesaid.

[*The word Hurley is rendered as Hurle, Herleia, or Hurleia in the originals of the Charters and Deeds thus translated.*]



20 AND 21, BEDFORDBURY,
LONDON, W.C.

ERRATA.

Page 229, line 1, *for* "(1166-1169)" *read* "(1169-1189)."

Page 236, heading of (No. 396), *for* "1334" *read* "1344."

court of the lord de la Halle [Hall Place] from three weeks to three weeks, and so the moiety of all the lands and tenements aforesaid is worth yearly without deduction (*ultra reprisam*) iis. xi $\frac{3}{4}$ d. And so under pretext of the writ aforesaid the aforesaid Bailiff has delivered to the Prior of Hurley all the goods and chattels aforesaid & in like manner a moiety of all the lands and tenements aforesaid at the reasonable price and extent as is ordered in the writ, To be held as his free tenure for himself & his assigns according to the form of the statute in a case of this sort provided, to the extent of twenty six shillings & eight pence, which the same Prior in the Court of the Lord King, before William de Shareshull and the Justices associated with him appointed to hold the assizes at Wallingford in the county of Berks, has recovered against the aforesaid John of Hurley for the damages he had by reason of a certain assize of new disseisin made on him by the same John concerning a tenement in Hurley.

In witness of which suit the aforesaid Jurors to this appraise-ment & commission have affixed their seals. Given at Hurley the day & year aforesaid.

[The word Hurley is rendered as Hurle, Herleia, or Hurleia in the originals of the Charters and Deeds thus translated.]



20 AND 21, BEDFORDBURY,
LONDON, W.C.





DA 2550 1107/145 1890

IMST
WETHERED, FLORENCE
THOMAS.

ST. MARY'S, HURLEY, IN
THE MIDDLE AGES : BASED
BBC-1890 (MCAB)

